THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 47/Issue 6 • February 16, 2001

Dream Date Auction Makes a Grand

Brett Johansson
News Editor

"Its not about the highest bid, its about having fun."

"I got in it because I was peer pressured. But it is for a good cause. I am really nervous."

Yes, it is that time again. The annual Dream Date Auction.

Thursday, February 8th in the Rock Cafe, thirty-plus "eligible" bachelors and bachelorettes strutted their stuff in hopes to be taken home by the highest bidder.

But, as freshman Chris "Topher" Chartier stated, the Auction is not just about being the highest bid. "I really don't care how much I raise personally. I am doing it because its fun and the money goes to a good cause."

That cause is the YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter. Deb Nolan, from the shelter, was on hand at the proceedings.

At the beginning, she talked about why this fund raising event is needed. "We turn away six women in need of our services and shelter for every one we accept simply because the lack of bed space. The money goes to buy snow boots for a child, medicine, transportation."

The Auction crowd in the packed Rock Cafe.

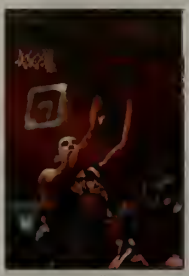
All competitors were conscious of where the money was going, nevertheless, they most were scared or nervous before their turn.

Topher said, "I have nervousness, but it is also excitement."

Others like Doug Lam were scared that they might not even be bid on. "To be honest, I'm not expecting any one to bid on

See Auction, Page 4

Commentary on the State of WNEC Men's Basketball



(Photo courtesy of Athletic Department)
Senior co-captain Eric Stewart goes up for a lay-up at Amherst College.

Tom Emberley
Staff Writer

As history says, Rome was not built in a day. In sports, dynasties are not built overnight, and usually go through a long, and sometimes hard, growing process before a given team achieves numerous successes on a consistent basis.

And though not a carpenter by title or trade, Western New England College men's basketball coach Doug Pearson has built a dynasty of sorts during his three-year tenure on Wilbraham Road.

In this, the school's second season of Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) competition, it is due in large part to Pearson's tutelage that the Golden Bears, entered the February 13 contest with Southern Vermont College at the Alumni Healthful Living Center, have a chance to finish as the GNAC regular season champions for the second consecutive year.

This cannot be done, however, without the help of the Western New England students.

The Golden Bears (13-7, 9-3 GNAC before hosting Southern Vermont) will host a GNAC quarterfinal game this coming Tuesday, February 20, for the second-straight year.

Everything is in place for the team to succeed. The Blue and Gold lost two 1,000 point scorers (Ryan Abraham and Tom Keane) to graduation coming into this season.

Despite this setback, the team has continued to stake claim as a mainstay in this league. And though word is around campus about the continued successes Pearson's Five have brought, not many members of the student body have seen the team play a

See BASKETBALL, page 11

(Photo courtesy of Athletic Department)
Junior Andy Thornton reaches for the block against Amherst College

NEWS	EDITORIALS	A&E	SPORTS
UMASS BAND PERFORMS AT WNEC...PG 3	READERS RESPONSES TO PUBLIC SAFETY JAB...SEE PG 7	CAN SPARKY SURVIVE?...FIND OUT ON PG 9	BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT PREVIEW SPECIAL...PG 11

Pschology Club Faces Fears

Jocelyn Jecques
Editor

A few Wednesdays ago, on January 31st, the Psychology Club faced their fears and phobias.

Professor Kathy Dillon of the Psychology department, and several members of the Club made the long journey to Longmeadow Professional Park to participate in Virtual Comfort, an innovative kind of therapy.

Virtual Comfort is essentially Virtual Reality therapy for those who have fear of flying, heights, public speaking and many other phobias.

The techniques used are those of virtual reality.

A headpiece is placed over the patient's head, and appropriate sounds are provided to simulate reality.

Not only are there sounds, but concrete, physical movements. One example of this would be the airplane simulation; where under the chair of the participant was a sub-woofer to aid in the feeling of turbulence.

John Byrne, Secretary of the club, experienced the airplane, "It was neat, how realistic it was. I'm not afraid of flying, so the whole scene didn't really startle me. I knew that it was fake, and not the real situation. It looked like a cartoon to me, but I'm sure that for people who are afraid of planes, this kind of therapy would be excellent".

Those who were in the room were also allowed to "see" what John was seeing through the headpiece.

The sounds provided very realistic tones and noises, Junior Melissa Orazio stated, "I could actually hear the engine noises, and the variation they go through when the plane was taking off".

Psych Club members Jocelyn Jacques, Stacie Feener, Joan Byrne, Angie Eiman, and Judy Guidry.

Included in the airplane simulation, was a window which the participant could turn and look out, as well as a view of the front of the plane and other empty seats.

The whole simulation lasted only fifteen minutes or so, but to those afraid of flying, it may have felt longer.

The entire program included awaiting take off, caddying down the runway, and finally takeoff. Also included was turbulence, and of course, the landing.

When John participated, he sat in a regular kitchen chair, the therapist hopes to get an actual airplane seat in aiding patients get the real sense of an airplane.

The therapist told the Psychology club that people who are terribly afraid of planes and flying can at any time, tell her to stop the simulation.

The virtual reality section of therapy is not the first step in conquering a fear or phobia.

Several sessions previous to the simulation are required, it is there that she discusses smaller steps in aiding the patient to overcome the phobia.

Another simulation that was "tried out" that evening was the elevator. The simulation was to replicate the Marriott in Arizona.

In case no readers have been there, it is a glass elevator, where those upon it can look all around, and see themselves going up or down the floors.

Again, for those who are not afraid of heights or elevators, it would not be a big deal.

Sophomore James Stacy was the participant for the elevator.

Unlike the airplane sequence, James was asked to stand on a wooden step with handrails, including a slight shakiness in the step.

This particular simulation required that he use a joystick, where he controlled whether he went up or down in the elevator. James admitted that he really isn't afraid of heights, and "It was interesting, though I'm sure it must have appeared more realistic to those afraid of heights".

The elevator simulation was not as involved as the airplane, simply because elevators do not have take off engines, or have to face turbulence, but it did accomplish the sensation that one was moving up and down between floors.

A final simulation was with bridges. This simulation took place in a ravine or a canyon.

The participant was on one of several bridges within the canyon. There were at least three different bridges at three different heights.

Again, with the joystick, the participant could freely choose which bridge and at which height he or she felt comfortable.

This simulation included wind noises as well as the sound of wood creaking. The participant could look up and down the canyon, and could look at both ends of the bridge.

On the lowest bridge, the participant could look up and see the other bridges above them.

Also, the same wooden step was used as the elevator. It is with this simulation that the shakiness of the step played an important role.

Virtual reality therapy is a new and upcoming kind of treatment.

Years of research reveal that "exposure therapy is the best approach for relieving fears and phobias and this set of techniques allows gradual confrontation with the feared situation" (Longmeadow Therapeutic Associates).

Virtual reality has been around for years, but not until recently has it become a useful tool in helping those with phobias.

The members of the Psychology Club who attended the informational session walked away with a small piece of the future of psychology.

SEARCH FOR JOBS:
Part-time, Full-time, Summer, Internships

CREATE & POST YOUR RESUME

REGISTER WITH C&HR

GET ADVICE FROM CAREER EXPERTS

INVESTIGATE EMPLOYER & COMPANY PROFILES

Live, from the Office of Career & Human Resources, the premiere of:

COLLEGE CENTRAL NETWORK
www.collegecentral.com/wnec/wnec.cfm
Use INTERNET EXPLORER

Call (413) 782-1217 or 1-800-326-1122 to make an appointment with your Career Counselor for additional information.

PEN Holds Annual Sexual Responsibility Week

Cerrie Bresnehan
Contributing Writer

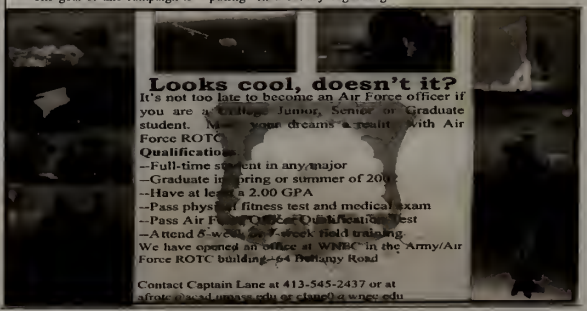
On February 19 through the 23, the Peer Education Network will be hosting its 3rd annual Sexual Responsibility Week Campaign.

The goal of this campaign is to promote sexual responsibility among WNEC students.

Once again for sale will be candoms "a condom for your can" and condom roses for the one you love.

Poetry magnets will also be available free of charge for participating in a survey regarding sexual health.

An up in coming event the Peer Education Network is hoping to offer to the school is "Who Wants To Be a Sexpert" where students will be quizzed on their sexual knowledge for the chance to win prizes.



Traveling Matt Comes to WNEC

Jaci Colby
Contributing Writer

On Friday, February 2nd, WNEC was given the chance to see Traveling Matt, a Umass Amherst based band.

This well-mixed, talented group consists of Colby Kuzontkoski on drums, Keith Uth on bass, Daniel Storch on acoustic guitar and vocals, Justin Schwenk on acoustic and electric guitar as well as vocals, and Joe Sparks on the saxophone.

They played a three-hour show in the Rock CafÈ, which was attended by several WNEC students, including some very hardcore Traveling Matt fans.

The Band Traveling Matt

The show began with the band playing some of their own original tunes; most of which can be found on their CD Stories for a Day.

The band had a mellow upbeat sound, the type of music you could listen to anywhere at any time; at a party, while chilling in a dark room, or when studying.

Traveling Matt also played some cover tunes, including Dave Matthews, and others.

As the show continued, there were some audience members that could not sit still, and so tables and chairs were moved to let those energetic people dance.

This soon led to the entire audience getting down on the dance floor, with band members occasionally playing on table tops, and a Congo line moving through the Rock Cafe and campus center.

While this type of music may sometimes be hard to dance too, WNEC students and band members seemed to have no trouble getting their groove on.

Traveling Matt's CD Stories for a Day was available during and after the show.

The CD mixes upbeat vocals and guitar riffs with amazing saxophone solos and a great drumbeat.

Itis the kind of music you need to tap your toes or snap your fingers to, and will always leave you upbeat and in a good mood.

Traveling Matt has some great talent, which was clearly evident during their show and on their CD.

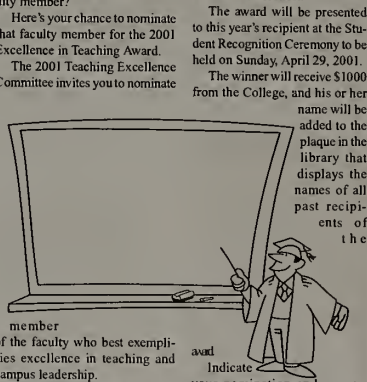
Committee Asks for Teacher Nominations

2001 Teaching Excellence Committee

Do you know an excellent faculty member?

Here's your chance to nominate that faculty member for the 2001 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The 2001 Teaching Excellence Committee invites you to nominate a member of the faculty who best exemplifies excellence in teaching and campus leadership.



The nominee must have made a distinct difference in the teaching climate of the College in model classroom teaching, pioneering teaching methods, creative course development or instructional support, and/or campus leadership.

The Committee will consider all nominations, however, a faculty member cannot receive this award more than once.

The following is a list of names of faculty members who have received the award to date: Henry J. Bazan, Peter W. Hess, Alfred T. Ingham, Ann Kizanis, Dennis J. Kolodziejski, Dennis M. Luciano, James V. Masi, Walter M. Presz, Jr., Marilyn K. Pelosi, Richard Pelosi, Ted Johnson-South, and Richard R. Veronesi.

The award will be presented to this year's recipient at the Student Recognition Ceremony to be held on Sunday, April 29, 2001.

The winner will receive $1000 from the College, and his or her name will be added to the plaque in the library that displays the names of all past recipients of the award.

Indicate your nomination and provide the Committee with a written statement supporting your nominee.

Please provide your name and, if a student, the date of your expected graduation.

Consider the areas listed above as you prepare your statement. Nominations not accompanied by a written statement will not be considered by the Committee.

Nominations may be sent via campus mail to Marie Irzyk at the Office of the President, e-mail them to mirzykl@wnec.edu or fax them to 796-2149.

Do you enjoy writing? Do you like having your opinions expressed? If so, feel free to join the Westerner staff today! Call 782-1580. Meetings are held on Thursdays at 12:30p.m. in the Campus Center Publications Office.

THE WESTERNER

Jocelyn Jacques
Editor

Melanie Gora
Assistant Editor

Eric Johnson
A & E Editor

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Brett J. Johansson
News Editor

Meg Kubera
Advertising Manager

Adam Wellington
Spencer Goldsmith
Laora Hinojosa
Shelly Hanson
Tom Emberley
Eric Hanosek
Staff Writers

Matt Derry
Rowing Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Contributing Writers
Kristen Chipoletti
Carrie Bresnahan
Jaci Colby
Chandra Bellow
Mark Dudas

Photos This Issue
Athletic Department
Celia Norcross
Natalie Arena

The Westerner Staff reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

1 HOUR FILM DEVELOPING
FEATURING FRAMES • ENLARGEMENTS • INSTANT PASS-

"Old Fashioned Quality without The Wait"

IN A FLASH
One Hour Photo Processing

Breckwood Shoppes
477 Breckwood Blvd.
(Across from Western New England College
Corner of Breckwood & Wilbraham Road)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-7 pm, Sat. 10am-5 pm

Kodak

FREE 2nd Set of Prints
with any roll processed

Good on all C-41 process, 35mm, 110 & 126 rolls.

Admissions Office Gives Thank-You's

Kristen Leke-Pieno
Admissions Counselor

The Admissions Office would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to the following students who participated in the Boomerang Program during the winter break:

Carrie Baskerville, Robin Belanger, Andrew Casceillo, Emily Chase, Jamie Clements, Beth Gagnon, Brett Giannuzzo, Tracey Herrington, Ryan Hogan, Karin Kenneally, John Kersante, Rudi Knebl, Melissa Levine, William Leuck, Jill Maynard , Josh Quinn, Kelly Quinn, Rich Regnier, Rich Ross, Cliff Vachon, Mike Vigant, Kristina Welch.

The program was a huge success thanks to all of you! We have received some great feedback and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Auction Makes Money for YWCA Shelter

Continued from page 1

me at all."

Topher commented on that situation, "There is no way that nobody will be bid on. The people know that this is for a good cause. The crowd will feel bad."

Many competitors felt confident on how much the would raise. John Barton said, "Realistically, I don't think I'll raise

Natalie Arena on the acution block

a whole lot. But I would like to raise a whole lot, around the hundred dollar range. Personally, I think that I am worth that much."

Fresman Liz Gargan stated, "I was hoping that I would go in the upper thirty dollar range. That would have been good for me."

Topher and Liz were some of the many contestants that wanted and planned to go on with a partner, but with the lack of competitors who actually showed up, pairs were split up. "I didn't want to go up alone. I didn't get to go up with my partner. Last minute, they told us that we were all going on separately," one distressed competitor said.

The auction raised over $1,100 for the YWCA with the first prize competitor, Ryan Watson, going for $92 dollars.

Second place, Gargan, went from a $22 price tag to $90 in one jump. "I am very happy about it. I didn't think I would get any bids. I was so suprised. I jumped off the ground."

Third place was Natalie Arena, being purchased for $88.

For winning, Watson and his purchaser get tickets to a movie and dinner at the Olive Garden, with no limo ride.

MC for the event, Greg Poole, stated that the limo wasn't the top prize. "That was a baiting for people to overbid. There weren't those extravagent bids, but we did get consistnetly higher bids. All were around the twenty to thirty dollar plus range. But we were around the thousand dollar range."

Poole also talked about what future competitors in the auction should do, "Contestants should have fun with it. This year they seemed a little more nervous than other years. In past years we have had contestants walk up and down the aisles, promote themselves, push limits and really just have fun with it."

As for his future with the auction, Poole stated that he wanted to keep on MCing. "This was the third time I have done it. I would love to come back again, if they want me."

Although it was a good experience for all, some did have some reservations about the exploitation of some of the higher bid on men. "There was something ironic about one thing here. Tbey made guys take off their shirts and under then they were wearing wife beaters. And what is this going to? A battered women's shelter?

"I got $150 dollars last year, and I was just trying to duplicate that. I am upset that I didn't. I am upset that I lost."

But Topher had the right idea. "I didn't win. But this is not a competition. The real winner is the women's shelter."

Embarrassed Contestant Lindsay Maguire

Highest purchase Ryan Watson

Alumni Relations: More Than Just Reunions

Bill Campanaila
Associate Director, Alumni Relations

Oftentimes, when a graduate hears 'Alumni Relations', the first thought associations are "Homecoming and reunions" and "Every year, they are going to contact me to give money."

While Homecoming, reunions and fundraising are an important part of what we do, there is so much more.

The Alumni Association of Western New England College, together with the Office of Alumni Relations, currently benefits from the talents of approximately 250 active alumni volunteers from throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Alumni serve on 17 committees ranging from administrative areas like Fiscal Advisory and Constitution & Bylaws to events related areas like the Annual Alumni Golf Tournament and Homecoming.

A number of programs also enlist the support and participation of alumni including the Alumni Mentoring Program, Alumni-in-Admissions, Class Correspondents, and the Alumni Career Network.

An emerging area of involvement is the National Chapter Program. Currently, alumni provide regional and area leadership through alumni chapters in Boston, Cape Cod, Hartford, New York City, Springfield, and Washington, D.C.

New chapters are developing each year.

Area chapters that are being explored for the coming years include Philadelphia, upstate New York, sections of Florida, and both San Francisco and San Diego.

These chapters plan a variety of social, networking, community service, and fundraising events annually.

You may be wondering how this is relevant to you as students.

The Office of Alumni Relations takes seriously its commitment to bring students and alumni together for mutual benefit.

Last spring, a Student and Alumni Team was created for the purpose of determining how alumni could best be used to meet the needs of our current students.

With representation from each of the four classes, as well as recent graduates, this team meets monthly during the academic year to plan events and programs that are of special interest to each class.

For example, seniors enjoy a banquet or send-off gathering just prior to Commencement that is sponsored by the Alumni Association. Juniors seek networking opportunities with alumni for career advice.

Sophomores look to alumni as mentors who can help them sort through some of the many challenges they face as students.

Incoming freshmen are welcomed to campus by alumni, who offer assistance that helps in their transition to college life.

Another longstanding tradition of alumni may be found in the selection of graduating seniors for the coveted Skookum Award.

For the past 13 years, alumni have honored the achievements of approximately 15 students per year, who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of cocurricular activities, athletics, community service, and volunteer experience.

Recipients are honored at Homecoming at an awards breakfast, with the top honorees receiving cash awards.

Students are nominated by faculty and staff, followed by an extensive review process resulting in the final honorees.

Watch for details about the Skookum Awards in the next issue of the Westerner.

A number of alumni return to campus each year to speak to classes, clubs and organizations about their career choices and experiences.

Students gain valuable insight into what employers seek, and receive practical tips on how to prepare for job interviews and employment.

Specific programs that bring alumni to campus for these purposes are Alumni Day (to be held this year on April 4, 2001), and Seniors-in-Transition.

Now in its second year, the Alumni Mentoring Program matches recent graduates with (primarily) sophomores to offer advice and counsel, and to serve as a "sounding board" as students work through career, academic and social challenges and choices.

Currently, 38 alumni mentors are working with some 70-student protégés in this capacity.

Additionally, freshmen engineering students have alumni serving as industry mentors, as they explore the many career options available to them.

If you would like more information about any of these areas, or would like to become involved with the Alumni Association, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumwnec@wnec.edu or 782-1327. Our offiees are located in Rivers Memorial.

The Westerner's Roving Reporter Asks.....

It's that time of year again, when romance fills the air and Cupid shoots his arrows It's also that time of year when candies and chocolates fill peoples' tummies.

What would be the best Valentine's day gift?

"Those kissing bears from Hallmark" Colleen Clark

"A girlfriend pretty much" Joe George

"An evening alone with no interuptions" Scott Zimov

"My girlfriend wrapped up in a bow" Nick Casasola

"Roses and a gold chain from my boyfriend" Sierra [illegible]

"I don't want anything I hate Valentine's Day" Danielle Brooks

Starting Off on the Right Foot: Westerner Staff Starts Big

Last issue was fabulous. I was very pleased with how everything came out.

The new look, the new writers, and the new semester all proved to be in favor of the Westerner. I was especially pleased with how the new look of the Westerner appeared.

The staff thought that since it is a new millennium, the paper should get a new look.

After all, the old style of the pages has been used for many, many years.

It was time to move on, time for a change. The old Cupola was replaced with a colorful Golden Bear.

If that doesn't say The Westerner, I don't know what does!

I am pleased, and I hope that readers are all pleased.

It is your paper after-all. I would also like to point out to readers that the Westerner is trying to give you more pictures.

Articles are great to read, but we all know that the reason for picking up an issue is not to read the editorials, but for the pictures, to see if friends were spotted by our photographers.

So, the addition of photographs have been made to ensure you, the reader, enjoy your issues thoroughly.

A few of the editorials last issue sparked a few nerves. Those who found a fresh new voice in the Westerner enjoyed Bumble's Corner.

Others were not as happy, but willing to accept it.

The section certainly will prove to become a hot spot of the paper.

Also, an article that would have gotten people's attention was mistakenly left out of last issue.

I would like to offer my apologies to a staff writer who handed in her article, and unfortunately, did not get it published.

It was a mistake of my own, but done on accident.

I would like potential writers to know, that I do not make it a habit to forget articles.

The last issue was a lot of work, and sometimes, mistakes can occur.

As the Editor of the Westerner, I offer that staff writer my sincere apologies.

I would also like to offer applause to the maintenance crew for a better job in tackling the snow issue.

The last snowstorm proved to be a big one.

I hope that my last editorial did not personally hurt them, but encourage them to better assist students in attending classes.

Snow removal is not a fun job, and I should like to say that they do work hard.

I sure would not like to get up at four o'clock in the morning to start shoveling. So much snow is like an endless task.

Finally, in my brief letter, I would like to again encourage students to write.

There are numerous topics to which one can choose, and if there are no topics of your choice, or you have one you particularly like, and then we are glad to hear your idea.

We enjoy receiving work from fresh voices and new people. I would just like to remind readers that meetings are held on Thursdays at 12:30pm in the Publications Office.

We would love to see some new faces. If you feel your voice needs to be heard, or you have an interesting piece of news that the campus would benefit from, then give us your article.

Doing so does not commit you to the staff.

Only when you decide so, are you considered staff. Feel free to stop in the office, drop a line or two, or an article.

Do not be timid; if you feel you would like to share work, you can always drop it off.

Until next time, I hope you all had a wonder week, and a very Happy Valentine's Day.

by: Jocelyn Jacques

WNEC's Public Safety...."Busy Bees"

I'm writing this letter in regards to "Big Bumble's" February 2001 article in the Westerner.

For those of you that did not get a chance to read it, it is was about WNEC's Public Safety Department and "their inability to do anything properly."

I'm not writing this to put "Big Bumble" down, but to share my thoughts and feelings about Public Safety.

First, I want to introduce myself, because what good is it to write an article when nobody knows who writes it?

My name is Kristen Chipoletti; I'm a senior CJ major, and a member of the Student Patrol Program.

In my opinion I think Public Safety does a lot of things properly, statistics show that as well.

Who is there for the college community twenty-four seven protecting the campus?

They do a lot more than just protect the campus too, they help students when they get locked out of their cars and dorm rooms, they assist students with medical care when they need it, and not to mention put their lives on the line at times to help the college community.

I think the men and women of Public Safety get less credit than they deserve.

If you look at the Campus Safety 2000-2001 pamphlet (located in Public Safety and it also comes with all the paper work when you first move in) you will see the statistics in motor vehicle theft has dropped considerably since the year 1995, obviously somebody is doing something right in regards to car theft and having the cameras on campus.

The cameras might not catch everything, but they act as a deterrent towards criminals.

When you look at this pamphlet check out the sats for the years 2000, I don't think you'd find statistics that impressive in many other colleges.

As far as not feeling safe walking across campus at night by yourself, Public Safety offers escorts (that information also provided in those pamphlets).

The Student Patrollers do escorts as well. If you feel that unsafe on this, what I feel to be, friendly campus maybe an escort is something you should look into.

The parking situation in Gateway is a pain sometimes, I agree with that.

But, would you rather Public Safety just issue enough permits for the number of spaces in Gateway and then tell all the others that live there that they are out of luck?

Or would you rather have a permit and the chance to find a spot? Public Safety can't control the flow of people wanting to attend this college.

The students don't have to "end up parking in a fire lane overnight" (unless they like waking up to having a yellow slip on their windshield).

There is an overflow lot just across the street from Gateway Village.

Classes are held everyday on campus, every day people walk from Gateway to classes with no big problems, but when it comes to parking your car over there after a day of work, shopping, etc.

It all of a sudden is a problem to walk that far.

I didn't attend Club WNEC, but hearing that the fire alarm went off for "30 minutes" doesn't really worry me all that much.

The fact that the safety equipment works and officers are on duty to provide assistance makes me feel lucky.

Before I end this article I'd like to thank the Public Safety officers for all that they do, and I'm sure a lot of other students feel the same.

by: Kristen Chipoletti

College Beat: Spring Break 2001

So I called my mom the other day and asked her to guess where I was going on spring break.

My mom guessed the places like Florida, South Carolina, etc. And with each guess, I would reply, "Nope, not even close."

Finally my mom gave up and asked me to tell her. "Dayton, Ohio," I said.

"Chandra, what the heck are you going to do in Dayton, Ohio?" was my mom's response.

I then proceeded to tell my mom about my trip and why I was going.

Spring break for most college students means a week off, fun in the sun, or just a chance to go home and rest.

That's what spring break meant to me. Until now.

This spring break, I will be traveling with nine other WNEC students/faculty to Dayton, Ohio.

We are going out there to spend a week working for Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat helps build houses for families in need across America, even in other countries.

Habitat is completely run by volunteers and donations.

The work is hard and demanding. Our group will be one of the many, working eight hour days for the entire week.

Sound fun?

To pay for our trip, our group will be having various fundraisers right up to our departure for Ohio.

The week of Valentine's Day we will have a contest to gues how many candies are in a jar. Each guess is a dollar.

Other fundraisers will follow, including Valentine's Day balloon sales and a partership with Club WNEC.

After I told my mom all this, she said that she was very proud of me and that my group and I should be very proud of ourselves.

Our group is proud that we will be helphing out a very worthwhile charity

But it is more than that. Habitat for Humanity changes lives.

It brings communities together and helps a needy family make a new start.

This spring break I encourage all of you to have fun and to enjoy you time off.

But also, I encourage you to think about ways that you could help make a difference.

Maybe not now, but sometime.

Even a small act like donating to a fundraiser has an impact.

by: Chandra Bellamy

Napster Shutting Down?

On February 12, the ninth court of appeals has ruled against Napster in their case to keep running the software and servers that allows computer users to share mp3 files over the internet.

Napster is currently continuing their discussions with major record companies, trying to find a compromise where users could join by membership and the record companies and artists can be paid for allowing their music be shared on Napster.

Napster argues that the users of the popular file sharing program buy far more cd's than most people who do not use the program.

Napster is a handy way for artists to make their music recognized and supported by music listeners everywhere.

Although the Napster file sharing service is not yet shut down, the court's decision could soon do

See Napster's End pg 7

Response to the Big Bumble

In the February issue of the Westerner an editorial was submitted regarding the Department of Public Safety.

In this article "Big Bumble" expressed his/her concerns regarding the use of surveillance cameras, parking permits and a fire alarm.

I would like to address these issues, and hopefully alleviate any concerns that the college community may have.

I would first like to apologize to those students and staff who were in attendance at the "Club WNEC" night in Rivers Hall.

The fire alarm, as reported to me by my staff, activated as a result of the "smoke" system provided by the entertainment company.

This alarm was not anticipated and unfortunately resulted in an extended delay in silencing the alarm horns.

The "Club WNEC" night was interrupted, but thankfully the alarm was false and the event was allowed to continue.

I was very glad to hear of the large attendance and that our students enjoyed this event.

I know that there are future "Club WNEC" nights scheduled and you can be sure that I am supportive of these types of activities.

As you know this is an educational institution and as such all members of the college community continue to learn by their experiences.

My department has certainly learned an important lesson in preparedness, and with your support we will endeavor to make future events run smoothly.

"Big Bumble" also raised concerns regarding the use of the college's surveillance camera system.

I feel that it is unfair that he/she refers to the officers of the Department of Public Safety regarding "their inability to do anything properly."

The officer assigned to the dispatch center monitors the current surveillance camera system.

This officer must also balance his or her time between watching the thirty-six cameras, answering the telephone, responding to radio and emergency call box transmissions, and taking care of anyone's needs who may come into our building.

The camera system is extensive and will be growing with the construction of the Evergreen Village complex.

I realize that the victims of crime desire the offender to be caught.

I assure you that the members of my department have a strong commitment and desire to protect our college community, and to apprehend those persons who would violate the law.

I would like to invite "Big Bumble" or any other college community member to tour our station.

In this way you may fully understand our professionalism and commitment to Western New England College.

Lastly "Big Bumble" raised the question regarding the issuance of parking decals for the Gateway Village complex. The editorial states that our department has issued more parking decals for this area then there are parking spaces available.

This is certainly true. Each fall students are required to file a parking permit application with our department.

Resident students are then issued the appropriate decal for the area in which they will be residing.

During the course of the school year many changes are made regarding residency.

Students often change vehicles, move to off campus housing, graduate mid-year, or can be removed from housing due to disciplinary sanctions.

In each of these instances the office of Residence Life fills these housing vacancies with students who are on the waiting list.

This process requires these new residential students to obtain new parking decals.

As a result of these housing transactions we must issue more parking permits then there are spaces available, but the students who have left residency have thus freed up the necessary space needed.

The college realizes that parking in Gateway Village is tight, and we due allow for overflow parking in the West parking lot.

by:Public Safety

Grounds Crew Folly

Before I come out and attack the grounds people of WNEC, I want to thank them for not shoveling the day of the snow storm. I want to thank them because they denied WNEC of living up to its name We Never Ever Close, and I also got a couple extra hours of sleep.

Now the flip side of the coin. The days after the storm the grounds crew failed miserably. The quad, a disaster, the snow was so high that it covered the first stair the day after the storm. So as I walk out and head to my nine o'clock class, I recognize the frozen snow on the stairs and figured it would be okay to walk on it.

Wrong, I slipped and fell right on my butt. This is something I do not like to experience first thing in the morning, but I lived.

The coming back to class was horrible too, I had to trudge through snow in the quad, slipping and sliding with all the other people trying to get to their dorms. Then I had to go to work at the AHLC, and that pathway they have wasn't even touched, it still had a ton of snow on it.

That made me go around the mess. For the next few days it was like this, fighting to get through the snow, avoiding pathways, and seeing people fall.

Then one fine day, I was surprised to see that it was all gone in the quad, my guess was that it melted. New problem, the lake effect took place. The water was so bigh that it went over the top of my shoe. So now it is back to the snow, walking around these lakes trying to get to class not soaking wet.

It is crazy, but the best walking has been when there has been ice on the ground. The grounds crew came out and threw some sand on it so it isnit so slippery, good call on that idea. Don't shovel snow or clear a ton of water away, just throw some sand on ICE so people can walk.

Ice is only the most dangerous of the three, but it has been made the best for walking, I congratulate the grounds crew on a terrific job!

by Spencer Goldsmith

The Network That Isn't

The school's computer network is an important tool for the campus community.

It is critical to Western New England College's mission: "To facilitate student learning."

The students depend on it to research different assignments they have for class, as well as use it to communicate with others both inside and outside the college.

The professors and other staff depend on it to view current events, do research, and to help prepare themselves for classes.

We have been hearing of changes to improve the network for some time, but from our prospective, all we have received is the ability to be unproductive at critical times during the school year.

In the past months, the network has been downtime and time again. Notably: It was down for a large portion of finals week last semester.

On a couple of occasions, the network administrators have given us notice (which is well appreciated) but at other times, we open our web browsers to stare at the all too common message of "This page can not be displayed" as a result of the connection to the Internet being down.

Many students like myself have come to be so disappointed as to use our campus telephone lines and modems to dial out to other Internet Service Providers (ISP's) so that we are able to meet deadlines.

We shouldn't have to do this. This isn't a 9 to 5 atmosphere where we come in and go home at the end of the day, this is a 24/7 environment in which the ability to get onto the Internet is imperative to meeting our goals.

If the network is down at 6:00 at night, we shouldn't have to wait until 9:00 the next morning to get the ability to check our e-mails. The problems should be resolved in a timely manner (within the hour if at all possible.)

If it is our ISP that is causing most of the problems (i.e. disconnects or the slow transfer rates)...drop them and go wit another carrier. If it is a network traffic issue, one word: firewall.

If it is a hardware issue, use the huge amounts of money ($200 a year/student) that goes towards our technology fee to expand the architecture.

We can't go on like this: it is very unreliable and so very unfair to us.

by:Mark Dudas

Napster's End?

From page 6

just that.

Napster is currently being used by over 50,000,000 computer users who the company is trying to encourage to write letters to congress in support of the file sharing service.

In their negotiations with record companies, Napster has succeeded in coming to a compromise with Edel and TVT, both major record distribution companies.

If more companies follow, there will be a new service that will charge members for swapping files. In this case, the record labels and the artists will receive part of the profit from the service.

The court stated that "Napster may be held liable for contributory copyright infringement only to the extent that Napster knows of specific infringing files."

In other words, if napster knows that the files are from copyrighted cd's and lets users trade them knowing this, Napster is held liable.

Just a few musical groups on Napster's side are rapper Chuck D, the Smashing Pumpkins, Limp Bizkit, and Ben Folds Five.

Some on the opposition include Rappers Dr. Dre and Eminem, along with other artists Jimmy Buffet, and the all important Lars Ulrich, the drummer from Metallica, who sued Napster a little while ago for copyright infringement.

Eminem quotes, "When I worked 9 to 5, I expected to get a paycheck every week.

It's the same with music.

If I'm putting my heart and all my time into my music, I expect to get rewarded for that.

And if you can afford to have a computer, you can afford to pay $16 for my...CD."

I believe that the artists complaining live comfortable and prosperous lives, regardless of the Napster service.

I think it would help them to become even more popular in the music world if they allowed their music to be promoted over such a service where so many potential customers can be reached.

I'm also sure that Napster users wouldn't mind paying for the service as long as it didn't cost too much and it didn't change the music that's available.

Such a service would be acceptable to supporters from both sides of the issue.

Another thing I'd like to ad is that even if Napster is shut down, there are already numerous clone programs (programs that are just like Napster) that would immediately take Napster's place if it were shut down.

While Napster fights in the courts to stay alive, there remains hope that the service will be available for a while.

However, the record companies and individual artists continue to keep a tight grip on Napster's fate, at least for now.

by: Adam Wellington

H & H Movie Review Corner:

HEAD OVER HEELS: IS IT WORTH HEADING OVER TO WATCH?

Laura Hinojosa & Shelly Hanson
Staff Writer

Monica Potter as Amanda and Freddie Prinze, Jr. as Jim in Head Over Heels.

Laura Hinojosa

Head Over Heels-um, more like Head Over and Get My Money Back.

This movie is a romantic comedy starring Monica Potter and Freddie Prinze, Jr. Monica Potter, who is the leading female in this movie, did a great job of acting...very poorly!

Not only is her character quite annoying and stubborn, but Potter tried too hard to be naturally clumsy and cute. So hard that she came off looking pretty fake.

She had several emotional scenes where she was way too overly dramatic-I think she was trying to go for that Academy Award.

As for Freddie Prinze, Jr., this wasn't exactly his best work either. The role of undercover FBI agent didn't fit him too well.

The only thing that Freddie Prinze, Jr. had going for him in this movie was the "cutie pie" image.

Any image was definitely killed with the bad "bathroom humor" that the audience could have done without.

I am not even going to bother going into the humping dog, ditsy models, or the over used "weak at the knees" bit.

If you ask me, it was just a badly written script with cheesy dialogue and an extremely weak plot.

My recommendation: Save your $8.50.

Shelly Hanson

Head over Heels stars Freddie Prinze, Jr. and newcomer Monica Potter. The basic plot of the movie is that Monica's character, Amanda, has one bad relationship after another.

After catching her latest boyfriend in bed with another woman, she moves into an apartment that over looks Jim's apartment.

After practically stalking Jim, played by Freddie Prinze, Jr., Amanda's roommates convince her to got to a party he's having.

Amanda only notices Jim's having a party because most of the movie she spends watching him from her new apartment. HELLO? Can we say peeping tom? I don't know. Maybe it's a New York thing.

This wasn't the only time I thought "whhhaaaaatt?" when watching this movie. From the previews, you may recall Amanda being knocked down by a huge dog.

This whole sequence was way over-played! It must have happened 5 or 6 times throughout the entire movie. Seriously, how many times can a dog knock down this woman?

Poor Amanda was also humped a few times by the dog, too, which was completely obnoxious!

What didn't add to my liking of the movie was that it was full of corny lines that made me roll my eyes in disgust!

The movie was also very stereotypical. Amanda's roommates were all models and all complete airheads.

Although I don't really know any runway models, and women who weigh less than 130lbs make me sick, I'm sure some of them are half-way intelligent.

The police in the movie were also portrayed as the stereotypical donut-loving pigs.

No one wanted to help out Amanda when she witnessed a murder because she was a paranoid woman.

Near the end there's a major action sequence behind the scenes at a fashion show.

Jim is fighting with a bunch of Russian mobsters while girls are having their make-up and hair done.

Strangely, no one seems to notice the two grown men rolling around on the floor and busting chairs.

Towards the end of the movie is where it started to get interesting.

Throughout the movie, no one really knows what Jim does for a living so as things begin to unravel, you can't help but get sucked into the question "what does Jim do?"

This movie isn't all bad. The storyline is good but the approach taken to get the idea across was just bad. If you can get past the stupid humor, it's pretty good.

Don't go to the theater, though. You'll get the same result if you wait to rent it.

Solutions for last issues word search

+	+	B	B	+	+	+	C	B	B	+	+	+	P	C
+	+	U	O	+	+	+	H	U	U	S	W	E	H	U
+	+	L	W	+	+	+	E	L	L	+	+	+	O	P
+	+	C	L	+	+	+	E	C	C	+	+	+	T	O
+	+	Y	I	+	+	+	R	Y	E	+	+	+	O	L
+	+	G	N	+	+	+	L	G	C	+	+	+	G	A
+	+	O	G	+	+	+	E	O	N	+	+	+	R	+
B	U	L	C	S	T	R	A	L	A	I	T	R	A	M
+	+	O	L	+	+	+	D	O	D	+	+	+	P	F
+	+	I	U	+	+	+	I	H	+	+	+	+	H	K
+	+	B	B	+	+	+	N	C	+	+	+	+	Y	E
P	E	P	B	A	N	D	G	Y	+	+	+	+	C	N
+	+	R	E	N	R	E	T	S	E	W	B	+	L	W
W	A	L	E	R	P	+	+	P	+	A	+	+	U	+
C	H	E	M	I	S	T	R	Y	C	L	U	B	B	+

tanfast'r
SILVER TANNING STUDIO
JOIN NOW
479 Breckwood Blvd., Springfield
783-0344

FREE TANNING
2 FREE TANS
With purchase of any Tanning Package
(Gentlemen Are Welcome)
With this coupon - Expires Feb. 28, 2001

No need to travel to Northampton, gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roaster is open at 5 Sumner Ave., near White St. Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, teas, cappuccinos, and baked goods.

Now open 'till 10 pm Mon-Sat.

Come sit and study, or bring your friends and visit over a Latte.

WNEK'S FINEST:

Hello friends,

This is the first of a VERY long run of articles about our long lost club and organization . . . WNEK 105-1. Within this area of Western New England College's grand newspaper, The Westerner, you will find any information about our radio station that you never knew. Or information that is posted, but you just don't notice it. So sit back, grab a bowl of some good eatin's, and enjoy the new addition to *The Westerner* . . . WNEK'S FINEST!!!

Joe Travaglino

The Return of Sparky: The Saga Continues

Jocelyn Jacques
Editor

I would just like to say to those reading this article, that there is a large amount of snow on the ground.

A lot of snow. It is cold, and snowy, and cold, and windy, and winter.

You're thinking, "Yes, you are right, why not tell me something I don't know." Well, I was stating the obvious to prove a point.

That it is freezing outside, and in the middle of February.

Why then, do I have a cricket in my kitchen?

For those of you who remember, last semester I told the tale of Sparky, my pet.

He was of course my pet cricket who did not seem to leave us at any time during the semester.

He made himself quite at home, and I think he ended up having better digs then we did. Anyway, for a little refresher, he was our pet.

He would wake up with us in the morning, sing us to sleep at night whether we wanted to hear him or not, and would invite his nasty, insect friends over for the games.

He wasn't so much the problem, as were his friends. I am proud to say, that between my roommates and I (well, mostly my roommates, I'm terrified of crickets) have defeated nearly 7 crickets.

We were sorry that we had to do so, but the rule of the house was that if you were in it, you were fair game.

All his friends knew this before they even came over. It was a standard contract, and they all knew the consequences.

On a few occasions, we took valid action and it just so happened that several of Sparky's friends were ummm....well...you know....they bought the farm.

We sent them to Never-Never land, where they would NEVER visit us again, and scare the bageebers out of us.

I told you, it was necessary, and they all knew ahead of time what the consequences were.

Well, we figured that with the cold weather, and the breezes, and the snow, and a whole month off, Sparky would pack his bags, put his apartment for rent, and ski-daddle.

And, for about three weeks last semester, we didn't hear his lovely "chirp chirp." It was fabulous, and we thought he was surely gone.

Now, by a statement of that sort, you brilliant readers of *The Westerner*, are probably hearing the inevitable, the return of Sparky the Cricket.

Coming back after break, my roommates and I were glad to see each other, and glad to be back at school.

We unpacked, settled in, and thought nothing of the cricket that lived with us in our kitchen.

We didn't think about him until two weeks ago, when from behind the boards, we heard the faint "chirp chirp chirp" of good ol' Sparky.

I thought I was hearing things. I ran into the living room and dragged one of my roommates in to see if they could hear him.

But, by that time, he probably settled down in his new Lazy-Boy that he bought for the Holidays. I was sure I heard him. Sure of it.

About a week later, I was walking toward the back of the kitchen to the window.

All of a sudden, something caught my eye near my feet. As I looked down, thinking of nothing more than a piece of fuzz, I noticed a small, little cricket.

I immediately froze and screamed for my roommate to come and rescue me.

After all, it had to be the size of a nickel, and it was horrible. He was a dangerous one, I could tell.

It was at this time that I realized Sparky had not moved out. He was still living in my apartment. And he didn't tell us.

His little buddy was not so lucky to have been able to sign the contract. He left this world with two things: a giant shoe print, and a girly scream.

It was sad, but necessary. He was in my house, and those were the rules. If he had wanted to visit Sparky, he should have read the contract. It's hard, but we managed.

Tonight, as I sit here writing this article, my lovely pet is singing me to.

He has gotten better I must say. He doesn't stay up so late anymore. It must be the age. Anyway, Sparky lives.

Seven crickets later, and Sparky still lives. He just won't leave. After the RAID, the death of friends, and a month of living on his own, he still lives in his apartment.

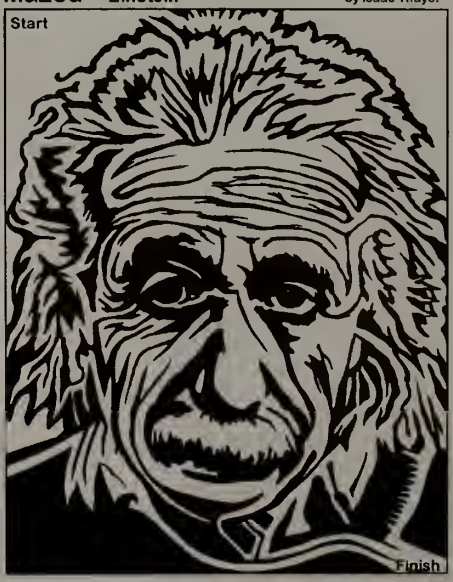
I'm curious to see what it's like in there. Must be swell. Well, Sparky would like to send his wishes to all readers.

He left me a note. He went out skiing today, in all the snow, cold weather, winds and winter. Sparky still calls my apartment home.

Hopefully spring will find him a new apartment to sing in. Only time can tell. Only time can tell.

Mazed™ "Einstein"

by isaac Thayer



Valentine's Day

BALLOONS
CHOCOLATE
DINNER
FRIENDSHIP
LOVE
ROSES
VALENTINE

CANDY
CUPID
EXPENSIVE
HAPPYCOUPLES
RED
SURPRISES

CARDS
DATING
FLOWERS
HEARTS
RELATIONSHIPS
SWEETHEART

Skelton Sees Bright Future for Wrestling

Eric Hanusek
Staff Writer

This season has been one of bad breaks for the WNEC wrestling team. The team has suffered countless injuries, causing the team to slip to a 5-21 record (2-11 at home, 1-3 away, 2-7 neutral).

Despite the record, Coach Bob Skelton remains highly optimistic about his young squad, and hopes to see a couple of his wrestlers make an impact at the upcoming New England Championships.

One thing that has really impressed coach Skelton has been the performance of the team's young wrestlers.

He said that he feels that they have really "stepped to the plate" this season, and is really looking forward to the team's future.

One of the young wrestlers that has really stepped up has been Freshman Chris Chartier.

Chartier, a participant in the 141 pound division, was ranked #1 in New England before he had knee surgery, putting him on the shelf for a while.

The injury is an example of the way things have gone for the team this season.

One standout match this season was the 18-17 win at Hunter College, where WNEC wrestlers were able to beat one of Hunter's All-Americans.

Other wins for WNEC included victories over Bryant, New York Maritime, Southern Maine, and MIT. Overall, the team has played a very competitive schedule, including many matchups against non-conference teams.

One reason for optimism is the strong progress that the younger guys have made. With three years still left in their careers, the sky is the limit for them.

Balancing the young guys have been the veterans of the team. They include co-captains heavyweight Craig Rand and Sophomore Joe Walsh.

"We've had a lot of fun," Coach Skelton said about the season thus far. "These are a great bunch of guys, and I am very proud of them."

He also stated that he is looking forward to the future of the team, with the progress made this season, and a strong recruiting class for next year.

(Photo courtesy of Athletic Department)
Western New England's co-captain Craig Rand grapples with his opponent.

Attention:

If you think you may have lost something at the AHLC, stop by at the security desk or call ext. 1518

Business | Education | Communications | Health | Law

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MASTER'S:
Business Administration
Health Administration
Teaching
Journalism
E-Media
Advanced Physical Therapy
Biomedical Sciences
Forensic Nursing
Molecular and Cell Biology
Nurse Practitioner
Pathologists' Assistant
Physician Assistant

FIRST PROFESSIONAL:
Law
Law/Business Administration
Law/Health Administration

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

. This is deep blue.
This is deep blue.™

Hamden, CT 06518 • www.quinnipiac.edu • 203-582-8672/1-800-462-1944

Sport Management Association Presents
First Annual
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
March 24th and 25th
$30 per Team (up to 6 players)
Sign Up At The Campus Center

Athlete Of The Week

GNAC TOURNAMENT HOME BASKETBALL GAMES

ALUMNI HEALTHFUL LIVING CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

WNEC MEN VS OPPONENT TBD 7 PM

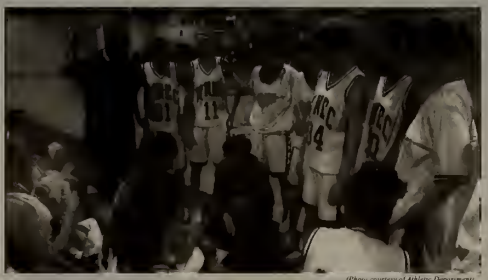
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

WNEC WOMEN VS OPPONENT TBD 7 PM

Basketball Tournament Preview Special

Defense Proves Pivital For Lady Bears Down The Stretch

Kevin Hessett
Sports Editor



(Photo courtesy of Athletic Department)
Coach Davis goes over strategy with the members of the women's basketball team.

If WNEC's opponent thinks they are going to be able to run-up the score on the Golden Bears when the women host their first ever Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Tournament Quarterfinal game this Wednesday night, they better think again.

As of February 4th, the Golden Bears ranked 8th in the nation in team scoring defense, giving up a miserly 49.8 points per contest.

Thanks in part to this stingy defense, the Lady Bears have gone from 7th place in the conference a year ago, to 3rd place this season.

The team is largely the same as that of a year ago. So why such a dramatic improvement?

"They worked really hard over the summer and during practice throughout the year," said head coach Wendy Davis. "A part of it also is that they are more comfortable with our system."

What also helps is the fact that WNEC has been playing some of the best competition around. Four of the Bear's opponents this season are ranked in the top 10 in New England, including top ranked Emmanuel, currently first place in the GNAC.

The Bears opened up the month of February by giving #6 Springfield College a run for their money.

The defense shut down Springfield's strong inside game, led by 6' 3" center Janna Dietz, and forced the Pride to beat them with their guards.

With freshman guard Elizabeth Whitaker scoring a career-high 17 points (5-7 from 3-point land), The Bears were able to keep things close the whole game.

The Pride went on to win 58-50 but the Golden Bears gained a lot of confidence from this game.

"I think they realize now that they can play with anyone," says Davis. " We played great defense and we kept them on their heels. It was a real moral booster."

The confidence showed the very next game, in which the Bears hosted Norwich University with playoff implications, and 3rd place in the conference on the line.

WNEC held Norwich, who is averaging over 60 points per game, to just 29 points in a 47-29 win.

Senior guard Erin Marino dominated the game both offensively and defensively, nearly outscoring Norwich on her own with 20 points while going 9-15 from the field, and recording 6 steals.

The Bears went into momentary hibernation in the first half of their next contest against 2nd place Suffolk last Wednesday night in Boston.

The team woke up and thoroughly out-played Suffolk in the 2nd half, but it was too little, too late as the Bears fell 50-42.

The very next night, WNEC took out their anger by doubling up on Rivier College 64-32 here at home. The game was virtually decided in the first 1:31 as the Bears opened up to a quick 10-0 lead.

Sophomore forward Jamie Carney led the way, scoring a game high 14 points with 8 rebounds and 5 steals.

Last Saturday, Marino moved up to 5th place on the school's all-time scoring list with her 10 point effort in a 68-41 win over Pine Manor College.

Going into this past Tuesday's contest with Simmons College, Marino is just 11 points in back of Yovana Brown for 4th place with 1263 career points.

With a home playoff game already locked in, the Bears are now fighting for positioning. If they finish in third place, WNEC would avoid a potential meeting with powerhouse Emmanuel until the final.

Although they are a very good team, the players can't do it all on their own. The Bears have their last home game of the regular season this Saturday when they host Emerson College at 1:00 p.m.

The Bears will need a lot of support from the student body at this game, and again Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the GNAC Quarterfinals.

Support Needed for Tournament!!!

From **BASKETBALL**, page 1

game this year.

The student body needs to get behind this team and support its run towards an automatic NCAA berth.

We have, arguably, the nicest gymnasium in the conference. Teams enjoy coming into our gym, with its great lighting and superior facilities.

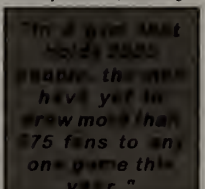
As great as the team has played during Pearson's tenure here, these opponents have not experienced even an ounce nf fear from our home crowd.

In a gym that holds 2000 people, the men have yet to draw more than 375 fans to any one game this year.

"It's great to have the pep band there, and it's great to have the dance team there," said Pearson, whose team faced Emerson on Thursday (February 15), and will play at Daniel Webster Saturday before hosting DWC on Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

"But we need more of a home court advantage. We need a rowdy group of students for (Sunday and Tuesday nights), and the team would love to see it. If we don't get support from the student body, we do not have any home court advantage," Pearson continued.

As students, we get into these games for free. Though a handful of us have class this Tuesday, when the GNAC Tournament begins, nobody has class on Sunday afternoon, less Hang-over Recovery 101.



On Sunday, the Golden Bears will probably be playing for the top seed in the GNAC Tournament against a Daniel Webster team that has yet to win a game this year.

For those of us who don't have prior commitments, the second title run in as many seasons will begin on Tuesday.

Though we are not a Division I university in the national spotlight like say, Duke University, there is no reason we cannot remotely emulate the atmosphere that the world-famous Cameron Crazies employ at Duke's Cameron Indoor Stadium.

For those of us who are former athletes, remember back to when the "Defense," chants rang into our ears for that high school championship game, or when face paint-clad students came to games and chanted "Air ball," every time somebody couldn't find the rim with their shot last time down the court.

Pearson and his players are not asking for much. We have an opportunity to witness back-to-back NCAA Tournament teams for the first time in this school's history.

A great deal of that hinges on the student body's participation at the upcoming home games on Sunday and, more specifically, Tuesday.

Hearing chants of "You can't dunk!" or "Thanks for practice," would be music to the team's ears. A music that could be ringing in their ears a week and a half from now, as they tip off in a first-round NCAA Tournament game.

GNAC Women's Basketball Standings

As of February 12, 2001

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
EMMANUEL	10	0	1.000	20	2	.909
SUFFOLK	10	1	.909	16	6	.727
WESTERN NEW ENGLAND	8	2	.800	12	9	.571
NORWICH	7	2	.778	12	8	.600
ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE	6	4	.600	13	8	.619
PINE MANOR	6	5	.545	9	13	409
EMERSON	5	5	.500	11	11	.500
ALBERTUS MAGNUS	4	5	.444	12	9	.571
DANIEL WEBSTER	4	5	.444	9	12	.429
JOHNSON & WALES	2	8	.200	3	18	.143
SIMMONS	2	9	.182	6	13	.316
RIVIER	1	9	.100	2	20	.091
SOUTHERN VERMONT	0	9	.000	0	21	.000

Top 8 teems meke the playoffs

GNAC Men's Basketball Standings

As of February 12, 2001

	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
EMERSON	13	1	.929	16	6	.727
SUFFOLK	10	3	.769	14	7	.667
W. NEW ENGLAND	9	3	.750	13	7	.650
JOHNSON & WALES	8	5	.615	9	12	.429
RIVIER	7	7	.500	10	12	.455
NORWICH	6	7	.462	9	12	.429
ALBERTUS MAGNUS	3	10	.231	6	15	.286
SOUTHERN VERMONT	3	11	.214	3	19	.136
DANIEL WEBSTER	0	12	.000	0	19	.000

Top 8 teems meke the playoffs

CLASSIFIEDS

Travel

SURVIVE SPRING BREAK 2001!
ALL THE HOTTEST DESTINATIONS/HOTELS! CAMPUS SALES REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WANTED! V[illegible]IT
Inte[illegible]-campus.com o[illegible] ca[illegible] 1 8[illegible]0 327 8[illegible]3
TH[illegible] TR[illegible]B[illegible] HA[illegible]PO[illegible]

Help W[illegible]

Freternit[illegible]es - Sororit[illegible]ee
Clube Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this quarter with the easy Campusfundraiser com th[illegible]ee fundra[illegible]sing event No s[illegible]es re[illegible]red Fundra[illegible]s are filling up quick[illegible] ce[illegible] today [illegible]raiser com et [illegible]

Health, Fitness & Beauty Expo

"Caribbean Break"
Monday, February 19, 2001
1:00PM to 6:00PM, AHLC Lobby

B-I-N-G-O
30 prizes to give away

Raffle Prizes
Every 20 minutes

Frozen Drinks & Food

Pina-Coladas & Strawberry Daiquiries

7 Hair Stylists

6 Massage Therapists guaranteed to relax you

Body Fat
Blood Pressure
Height and Weight

Make-up

WNEK

Cholesterol & Blood Sugar Screening

Hearing Test

Vision Screening

Try "Feet Fishing" & win a $25 certificate to the Ground Round

5 Manicurists

Sponsored by Campus Activities Board (subcommittee of Student Senate), Wellness & Health Services
Free to all Students & Employees

Massachusetts School of Law

AT ANDOVER

CLASSES START IN JANUARY

- LSAT NOT REQUIRED
- DAY AND EVENING PROGRAMS
- AFFORDABLE TUITION PLANS - 1/2 THE MEDIAN LAW SCHOOL TUITION IN NEW ENGLAND
- OUR PRACTICAL/THEORETICAL PROGRAM PREPARES STUDENTS FOR THE PRACTICE OF LAW AS WELL AS NUMEROUS OTHER PROFESSIONS

THE LEADER OF REFORM IN LEGAL EDUCATION

500 FEDERAL STREET, ANDOVER, MA 01810
Phone: (978) 681-0800
email: pcolby@mslaw.edu

www.mslaw.edu

CONTACT US NOW FOR YOUR COPY OF FEDERAL REPORTS
600+ THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH A LAW DEGREE

Reaching Goals Mentorship Program

The "Reaching Goals Mentorship Program" is sponsored and run by the Women's Partnership within the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the program is to provide access for college junior and senior women to a formal, business oriented relationship with a professional woman. This is accomplished through separate programs at Western New England College, Springfield College, Elms College, and Bay Path College which consist of five to six scheduled meetings in a group setting.

During these meetings, a speaker from the business community presents a topic of interest to the students that pertains to their entrance in the professional world of work. Topics range from interviewing skills, to resume building, networking, personal goal setting and career planning. The mentors and mentees network and exchange ideas during these meetings, and spend time together after the formal presentation discussing what was learned and how the mentee can apply the information to use in her life.

Students and their mentors have the opportunity to build a good relationship with each other, and the student is able to acquire valuable, work oriented skills and knowledge that has been provided in a supportive, pro-active environment.

Reaching Goals Mentorship Program is a wonderful opportunity for Women in their Junior/Senior Class to network with professional women in their field.

- **We will match you with a mentor for one-on-one and group career discussions.**
- **If you will be a Junior or Senior this spring and you are interested, sign-up today with Eileen Maloney or Laurie Marates in Career and Human Resources!**

Eileen Maloney
Career Counselor
Emaloney@wnec.edu
413-782-1547

Laurie Marates
Internship Assistant
lmarates@wnec.edu
413-782-1560

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 48/Issue 1 • September 21, 2001

America Under Attack : The Saga Continues

Malania Gura
Editor

Tuesday, September 11th, is a date that has rapidly become synonymous with destruction and disaster.

At approximately 8:48 AM, this country changed dramatically from one of safety and refuge to most feared location on the planet.

Within minutes, news channels and radio stations across the country had dubbed this a "National Tragedy," now more commonly known as the "Attack on America."

This tragedy, now tallied at over 5,000 deaths, is the largest number of people ever killed on American soil since the Civil War.

Ten days ago, four planes were hijacked from Boston's Logan Airport and aimed at three of our national landmarks.

The most shocking of the attacks was, of course, the World Trade Towers. Shortly thereafter, the Pentagon was struck and then, seemingly, out of nowhere, a plane crashed outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Planes were also spotted circling above Dallas, Texas.

Within a day of the crashes, it was learned that the fourth plane, the one that crashed in Pennsylvania, was actually heading for either the White House or the Capital Building.

Since that time, the number of deaths, suspects, threats, accomplices, etc have increased almost on a daily basis.

Every day, the accusations fly and the pressure mounts to find the culprits who rocked our once peaceful nation.

According to CNN.com, President Bush has named bin Laden the prime suspect in the attacks.

Vice President Cheney says that he foresees a very long war as a result.

Every day since last Tuesday, the stories are never-ending and each one seems impossibly more tragic than the one before.

Messages are turning up on answering machines from people in the buildings as well as on the planes. A man on one of the flights called his wife saying that the plane had been hijacked.

Another man was sending an e-mail to his wife to tell her that he was alright just before the second plane struck the building that he was in.

And of course, there are the countless fire fighters who went in to help and were killed by a collapsing building.

To this day, no one is aware of all of the disastrous ramifications that the crashes have had.

There is still so much in question that no one seems to be able to figure out.

According to MSNBC.com, in a speech that President Bush made on Tuesday night, he stated that, "Today, our fellow citizens, our way of life, our very freedom came under attack." "Our nation was horrified, but it's not going to be terrorized" (CNN.com).

As tragic as September 11th was, one good thing has come out of it. For the first time, perhaps in history, this country is united as one. The outpouring of support has been tremendous.

Firefighters from surrounding states have gone in to assist with rescue missions. Many states are holding blood drives to send blood to the surviving victims.

Practically every city across the country is collecting money, food, clothing, or other necessities to send to New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania.

Friday, September 14th, was declared a day of national mourning.

At 7 PM on that day, people around the country lit candles to show their support, patriotism, commitment, and optimism that we will in fact overcome this devastating turn of events.

The culprits of this heinous crime sought to tear this country apart. Unbeknownst to them, we stand now more united and committed to a cause than ever before.

We have succeeded in proving that we will not be threatened and will, undoubtedly, prevail over the evil that brought this on.

Communities Unite in Rememberance of Tragedies

James Russell
Staff Writer

It is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit that communities come together in the wake of tragedy.

That strength was shown as WNEC students, faculty, and staff came together to grieve and mourn together for those lost in last week's terrorist attacks.

As college lamented these catastrophes as one, it showed that these attacks would not divide people with fear. Instead, they have united the college community, as have few other events in the history of our institution.

On Tuesday morning the word spread from classroom to classroom at 9:30 - the World Trade Center had been hit by an airplane. Thus began the day of infamy that will never be forgotten by anyone who lived through it.

The Campus Center was filled with viewers, as was Sleith 100, set up like a movie theatre to provide continuous coverage.

Hundreds of students simultaneously gaped in shock as the first tower fell, and then the second.

These images endlessly repeated themselves, as people tried to somehow process that the inconceivable had occurred.

Everything seemed surreal, and the day was filled with the quiet of disbelief, occasionally punctuated by the blare of news and the conversations that happened ubiquitously, as people tried to understand the enormity of what had happened. .

Classes were cancelled, leaving nothing to do but watch and talk, trying to achieve some kind of elusive understanding.

For WNEC students, the attacks were not just a distant horror - they were an all-too close reality, because so many members of our student body are from New York or have family and friends there.

To cope with such fear and confusion, people turned to each other. Those who would not likely talk to each other under other circumstances talked, hugged and wept.

Typical social awkwardnesses were dropped as students shared their common anguish. Many felt the desire to be with others, to at least know that they were not alone.

To that end, Campus Ministry rapidly organized a candlelight vigil at the Gazebo. The turnout exceeded all expectations. It was possibly the largest such assembly in college history.

Over five hundred candles were handed out, and more students kept arriving.

Mrs. Shiela Hanafin, the campus Catholic minister, and Mr. Burress McCombe, the Protestant, opened with prayer, the latter citing Psalm 19. "As I walk through

Please see Community, pg 2

NEWS
Maya Angelou makes a guest appearance at Symphony Hall.
pg 2

EDITORIALS
Big Bumble is back!
pg 8

A&E
Find out what happened this summer in music and movies.
pgs 6 & 7

SPORTS
Marvin Langley breaks another record.
pg 10

"Community" Cont. from pg. 1

the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil."

Afterwards, the microphone was opened to any who wanted to share their thoughts.

Clemoterik Phillips led the assembled crowd in singing "Heal the world". "I wanted to lift everyone's spirits up, to make them feel at ease" she said.

Other speakers shared their concern for a missing family member or wish for healing. There was a great feeling of unity, as over five hundred students, staff and faculty mourned together.

Afterwards, the crowd adjourned into small groups discussing and processing the crisis or Community Support Spaces established by the college.

Many described the vigil as helpful in the healing process. "It was comforting to see so many people there, and maybe it had a healing effect" said Mrs. Ann Guidi, Secretary of Campus Ministry.

"It can bring people together" said Mr. Wayne Carpenter, Director of Counselling Services, "they can all express their emotions with one another.

There is not only a sense of community, but they realize "I'm not going through this alone, what I'm feeling is normal"."

For the remainder of the week, remembrances continued as the normal schedule resumed.

Many expressed their patriotism and solidarity by adorning their windows and vehicles with American flags.

On Friday, September 14th, the College heeded President Bush's call for a National Day of Mourning. One o'clock classes were cancelled so that the whole college could assemble.

After many viewed the service at the National Cathedral on television hundreds gathered in the Rivers gymnasium.

President Caprio commenced the service with a speech, noting that the community was assembled on the anniversary of the writing of the national anthem.

The President recounted the story of how Frances Scott Key wrote "The Star Spangled Banner" as he watched the battle of Baltimore in the war of 1812, watching through the night to see if the flag remained, drawing an analogy to the present challenging times.

Campus Chorus then sang a moving anthem, later followed by "God Bless America". Joel Dusoe, the Student Body President, then addressed the crowd stating "But PROUDLY it is September 14, 2001 and I stand here before you today. America still stands as one nation under God.

America and Americans stand taller then ever before. We stand united, free, and proud. It is September 14, 2001 and the heartless and ruthless people that attacked this nation and our freedom, FAILED." and exhorting the student body to "live our lives normally, even though the definition of normal will forever be changed. It is important to live life to its fullest and to continue on".

Later he said of the two gatherings "It was a great thing that the campus came together at the vigil and the Day of Mourning.

The amount of people was amazing. It has affected this community as much as New York City, and we are all Americans. By pulling together as a community, we can strengthen this nation.

Junior Chandra Bellamy spoke of the choices facing the nation after the tragedy, and the possible courses of action. She evoked Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken" and urged people to follow the less-trodden path, that of forgiveness.

She also spoke out against reacting to the tragedy with bigotry and hatred, stating "It is not right to target a whole group for what a fraction of a percent of that group has done."

Both the candlelight vigil and observance of the National Day of Mourning brought togetherness and healing to the campus community. "Just seeing the unity, it's wonderful, it gives a sense of security. They were both beautiful events" said student Christine D. Holmes.

Many students expressed the same sentiment "After watching the news, I felt vulnerable, and it was reassuring to be there" said Julie Carey.

These two gatherings have definitely shown that WNEC is a campus that really does care and will come together in times of crisis to support one another.

Helpful Ways of Dealing with Last Week's Tragedy

Wayne Carpanter
Director of Counseling Services

Dealing with tragedy is always a difficult task. Often people are unsure how they are "supposed" to feel or act, or what to say. It is a time of mixed emotions and confusion.

Last week we witnessed a traumatic event that is unsurpassed in our history, and it has had a profound effect on all of us.

The initial shock of what happened may have subsided, but the emotional aftershocks of such a trauma may reside within us for a long time.

This is, quite understandably, normal. And so it is that I wanted to take some time and share with you some of the common ways you may feel, how you might be able to take care of yourself and others, and how you'll know when it may be time to seek professional help.

COMMON SYMPTOMS ASSOCIATED WITH TRAUMA

Below is a list of symptoms that one might normally experience in the aftermath of trauma.

This list is not exhaustive, nor is it likely that one would experience all of these symptoms.

* Recurring thoughts or nightmares about the event.

* Having trouble sleeping or changes in appetite.

* Experiencing anxiety and fear, especially when exposed to events or situations reminiscent of the trauma.

* Being on edge, being easily startled or becoming overly alert.

* Feeling depressed, sad and having low energy.

* Experiencing memory problems including difficulty in remembering aspects of the trauma.

* Feeling "scattered" and unable to focus on work or daily activities. Having difficulty making decisions.

* Feeling irritable, easily agitated, or angry and resentful - even with friends and family members

* Feeling emotionally "numb," withdrawn, disconnected or different from others.

* Spontaneously crying, feeling a sense of despair and hopelessness.

* Feeling extremely protective of, or fearful for, the safety of loved ones.

* Not being able to face certain aspects of the trauma, and avoiding activities, places, or even people that remind you of the event.

HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

There are a number of steps you can take to help restore emotional well being and a sense of control following a terrorist act, a disaster or other traumatic experience, including the following:

* Give yourself time to heal. Anticipate that this will be a difficult time in your life. Allow yourself to mourn the losses you have experienced.

* Try to be patient with changes in your emotional state.

* Ask for support from people who care about you and who will listen and empathize with your situation. But keep in mind that your typical support system may be weakened if those who are close to you also have experienced or witnessed the trauma.

* Try to find groups led by appropriately trained and experienced professionals.

Group discussion can help people realize that other individuals in the same circumstances often have similar reac

Dr. Maya Angelou Speaks

Carrie Brasnahen
Contributing Writer

On September 8th Western New England College students were offered the opportunity to see Dr. Maya Angelou speak at Springfield Symphony Hall.

Dr. Maya Angelou was speaking on behalf of the Academy Hill School and New Leadership Charter School.

Both schools are for the children and teenagers who are bright, gifted and creative.

The evening began with opening remarks from Carolyn Price, head of Academy Hill School and Henry M. Thomas, President and CEO of the Urban League of Springfield and Chairman of the Leadership Charter School.

Then was a video presentation of Academy Hill School. Next students from Academy Hill School and New Leadership Charter Schools presented their original poetry.

The Shiloh Youth Choir performed and Cynthia Tucker-Curtis Esquire introduced Dr. Maya Angelou.

Dr. Maya Angelou has written five volumes of autobiography, including "I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings".

She has also published five collections of poetry together with "And Still I Rise"

WNEC Birthday Bash

Chris Purcell
Staff Writer

On September 25th, WNEC will be celebrating its 50 years as an independent college with a giant birthday bash.

Yes, it has been fifty years since the Springfield division of Northeastern University became Western New England College, and we're celebrating with a "good old fashion birthday party".

The Party will take place in Rivers Memorial Building from 4:45-6:00pm.

Alumni, trustees, and local community leaders will be on hand and students are absolutely encouraged to attend.

Displays will be on hand showing the different periods of WNEC history, and food will be available for attendees to munch on.

A disc jockey will be spinning hits from throughout the college's history, and a raffle will be taking place with a hot air balloon ride as the prize.

Springfield-Northeastern College was first formed in 1919.

Most classes took place in the downtown Springfield YMCA. The first graduating class of thirteen emerged in 1922.

Northeastern University, the college's parent institution, decided to stop all operations in Springfield, but an anonymous charter was obtained to allow the college to continue granting degrees.

In 1951, the now independent Western New England was formed. After WWII, the demand for greater education was increased, so the college moved its academic programs to our current location.

Since then, the college has undergone massive changes.

Throughout the past 40 years, the college has seen its academic programs grow immensely and it's property going from an original 34 acres to 215 acres.

The college has also seen the building of many beautiful buildings and facilities that we all enjoy today.

Come take a journey through WNEC's storied history and have fun doing it. It's sure to be a birthday that this college won't soon forget.

Coping Continued from pg 2

tions and emotions.

* Engage in healthy behaviors to enhance your ability to cope with excessive stress.

Eat well-balanced meals and get plenty of rest. If you experience ongoing difficulties with sleep, you may be able to find some relief through relaxation techniques. Avoid alcohol and drugs as a means of escape.

* Establish or reestablish routines such as eating meals at regular times and following an exercise program.

Take some time off from the demands of daily life by pursuing hobbies or other enjoyable activities.

* Avoid major life decisions such as switching majors, if possible, because these activities tend to be highly stressful.

WHEN SHOULD I SEEK PROFESSIONAL HELP?

Some people are able to cope effectively with the emotional and physical demands brought about by a traumatic experience by using their own support systems.

It is not unusual, however, to find that serious problems persist and continue to interfere with daily living.

For example, some may feel overwhelming nervousness or lingering sadness that adversely affects academic performance and interpersonal relationships.

Individuals with prolonged reactions that disrupt their daily functioning should contact Counseling Services and make an appointment, or, if you prefer, receive an outside referral.

We are located on the second floor of the Campus Center, room 249; our phone number is 782-1221.

(* Much of the information in this article was copied/adapted from articles listed on the American Psychological Association's website : http://www.apa.org/psychnet/)

FRIENDS, FACULTY & FORMER SUMMER 2001 INTERNS

LEND US YOUR EARS, YOUR VOICES, YOUR OPINIONS, AND REFLECTIONS ON YOUR SUMMER 2001 INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE.

EVENT: SUMMER 2001 INTERNSHIP FORUM

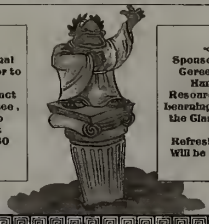
WHEN: OCTOBER 10, 2001
4:00 - 5:00PM

WHERE: CONFERENCE ROOM 4

WHY: TO GAIN INSIGHT INTO THE INTERNSHIP LEARNING PROCESS.

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

For Additional Information or to Register Please Contact Laurie Meratee, Internship Assistant At 782-1560



Sponsored by Career and Human Resources and Learning Beyond the Classroom.

Refreshments Will be Served.

Continued from pg 2

"And Still I Rise"

by Dr. Maya Angelou

You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I rise.
Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,
Still I rise.

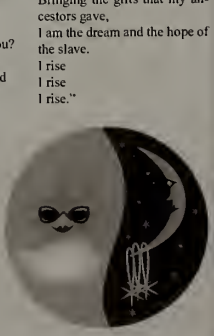
Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries.

Does my haughtiness offend you?
Don't you take it awful hard
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold
Diggin' in my back yard.

You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness
But still like air I rise

Does my sexiness upset you?
Does it come as a surprise
That I dance like I've got diamonds
At the meeting of my thighs?
Out of the huts of history's shame

I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.
Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise."



THE *Westerner*

Melanie Gura
Editor

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Eric Hanusek
A & E Editor

Laura Hinojosa
James Russell
Chris Wystepek
Darryl Konicki
Melissa Harris
Matt Mancuso
Chris Purcell
Jocelyn Jacques
Staff Writers

Cliff Vachon
Roving Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Contributing Writers
Kristen Jay
Carrie Bresnahan
Jason Friedberg
Wayne Carpenter

Photos This Issue
Melanie Gura
Jocelyn Jacques
Athletic Department
MSNBC.com

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

A New Way To Get Around Campus

Jason Friedberg
Public Safety

On September 17th Western New England College's first student shuttle, "The Golden Bear Express", will begin.

The shuttle will travel throughout the campus and will make ten stops at designated locations.

The shuttle bus is a pilot program started as part of our commitment to providing expanded community services and safety.

At the same time, the service will provide students mobility without driving their cars around campus.

"The Golden Bear Express" will be operated by trained drivers from the Public Safety and Student Patrol staff.

It will operate 15 hours per day, Monday through Friday, from 7:30am till 10:00pm. Pickup will be at the designated locations only, and drivers will not stop along this route to pickup passengers, in order to keep on schedule. The ten stops are:

ALUMNI HEALTHFUL
LIVIVNG CENTER
EVERGREEN VILLAGE
LARIVIERE CENTER
ST. GERMAIN CAMPUS
CENTER
LAW SCHOOL
SLIETH HALL
GATEWAY LAUNDRY ROOM
44 PARK LANE (GATEWAY)
DELISO HALL
BERKSHIRE HALL

It is our hope that your comments and suggestions will help us in determining the effectiveness of the shuttle's stops and times of service.

In addition, your use of "The Golden Bear Express" will also be carefully documented by our drivers to determine if the shuttle service should be expanded.

Students eagerly awaiting a ride on the Golden Bear Express

PARKING REGULATIONS ENFORCED

Parking regulations have been modified so that everyone may find a parking place.

In the past, resident students have parked in lots designated for commuters, at the Alumni Healthful Living Center and other spaces illegally.

With the opening of Evergreen Village, even more cars are on campus.

The College has added additional places for parking in and around campus including 90 new spaces in the Quad lot, 204 spots in Evergreen Village and an additional 12 spaces near the Alumni Healthful Living Center and the athletic fields.

Unfortunately, the Gateway widening project of Breckwood Circle has been delayed because of red tape with the City of Springfield.

It still is a part of the college's expansion plans, hopefully for next year.

The upper portion of the West lot is under construction for the new Admissions and Continuing Education Complex; temporarily, spaces have construction equipment and supplies on them, but we hope to regain these spaces shortly.

Public Safety has given students two weeks to become accustomed to the new regulations, but enforcement will begin this week.

These new regulations are:

1. Parking Permits are issued to students based on their residence, whether they are a commuter or a law student. Vehicles are assigned to ONE parking lot with designated overflow to additional lots. Vehicles found in any other lot will be ticketed.

2. Alumni Healthful Living Center circle drive is NO PARKING at all times.

3. Alumni Healthful Living Center parking will be open to student parking after 5:00pm.

4. Until the completion of the laundry facilities at the Evergreen Common Area, Gateway laundry parking lot will be restricted to Evergreen residents, Monday through Friday 10:00am till 5:00pm.

Public Safety has added a full-time Parking Enforcement Officer.

Officer Todd Steglinski will be responsible for ensuring that all of the new parking regulations are enforced and will maintain a high visibility patrol and presence throughout the day.

With this increased parking lot presence, we hope to decrease vehicle vandalism, thefts, and break-ins.

Officer Steglinski will have the responsibility of patrolling the College and issuing citations, enabling the Denver Boot, and requesting tow trucks to ensure that your parking spaces are available to those rightfully assigned to them.

Again, it is our hope that this strict enforcement of the parking regulations will ensure that our students ALWAYS have a place to park.

The parking appeals process has also been overhauled and is now being handled by peer review, so as to have an impartial panel making the final ticket determination.

Public Safety has added a new "Parking Section" on our website, dedicated to addressing the parking changes.

On the website, www.wnec.edu/~dps, you will find vehicle registration forms, "The Golden Bear Express" schedule and pick-up locations, as well as all of the new parking regulations.

The Public Safety Forum will become a monthly article in The Westerner aimed at better serving the student population by addressing all of the questions, comments, and concerns raised through our suggestion box and letters sent to Public Safety or The Westerner.

Study Abroad

CONSIDER TAKING A SEMESTER AT A COLLEGE IN

ANYWHERE YOU CHOOSE.

THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER
(OR TACO, CRUMPET, SUSHI).

- *COSTS COMPARABLE TO WNEC*
- *FINANCIAL AID CARRIES OVER*
- *NO TIME LOST TOWARD GRADUATION*
- *SETS YOUR RESUME APART*
- *PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO OTHER CULTURES AND YOURSELF*

CONTACT: PROF. B. PORTER
H212), 782-1760, bporter@wnec.edu

Club WNEC Returns For New Semester of Fun

Melissa Harris
Staff Writer

On campus was the place to be Thursday night, September 13th when Rivers Memorial Building was transformed into the first in a series of Club WNECs that are planned for various times throughout the year.

With state of the art DJ equipment including light shows and special effects, the atmosphere was set for a night of busting a move, grooving, and breaking it down.

The amount of power taken up by the system was so huge that Rivers was overloaded and the power went out. However the music and lights were up and jumping just a few minuets later and everyone got back to dancing.

Club WNEC started at 9:00 but it wasn't until about 10:30 that people started pouring in, dressed to impressed, setting the stage for a realistic club scene.

From freshmen to seniors, students came to fulfill community requirements, take advantage of the $1 bottles of beer, or just to show off their mad dancing skills.

No matter what the initial agenda, everyone seemed to let loose and have a good time.

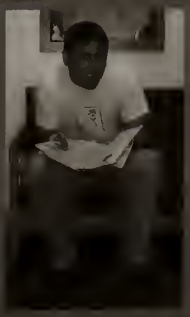
Jen Labor, a sophomore, stayed at Club WNEC almost all night and stated "I had a great time at Club WNEC, there was a great turnout and the music was good." Johanna Gonzalez, a junior who also represented the Dance Team in their Club WNEC performance to Ice Cube's "You can Do It", says "Club WNEC is starting to get more people every time, it was fun and there was a great selection of music."

Last Thursday was one of the largest turnouts for this event and the school hopes that the next Club WNEC will be even more popular.

If you are looking for a great (free) time and a chance to show off your dance moves or just sit back and enjoy the scene, check out the next Club WNEC.

The Westerner's Roving Reporter Asks.....

What was the highlight of your summer?



How Rock Made a Comeback This Summer

Eric Hanusek
A&E Editor

The summer of 2001 will simply be remembered by many mainstream music fans as the summer in which N'Sync released their latest marketing tool of an album, "Celebrity", but upon closer look you will see something that hasn't happened in years: a string of successful rock groups.

Now I am not talking about bands such as Limp Bizkit or Linkin Park, as they are simply trendy acts that will soon join the "What were we thinking?" ranks of acts such as Winger and Journey.

I am talking about real rock and roll, with real lyrics and real musicians.

Maybe the mainstream rock audience is finally starting to tire of a monkey in a backwards hat stomping around a stage yelling how he "did it all for the nookie."

Leading the way this summer, at least as far as commercial success goes, was the band Staind.

Their third album, "Break the Cycle" debuted at number one in June, and it featured what was perhaps the biggest and definitely the most overplayed single of the summer "Its Been Awhile".

The ironic thing about their success is that it was sparked by the acoustic and heartfelt ballad "Outside" last winter, in a musical landscape where such a thing is unheard of.

With its self-deprecating lyrics and pure emotional angst, Staind is the only band being played on top-40 stations that isn't all about the "bling bling" or pure bubble-gum pop.

Perhaps the smartest and most innovative metal band out there, Tool, also made a huge comeback this summer. Their highly anticipated album "Lateralus" debuted at number 1, back in May and has been on the charts since.

Upon its release, many appointed their leader, Maynard James Keenan, as the savior of real rock and roll, and although he certainly won't do it single-handedly, the success of his band's uncompromising album, has certainly sent a message to record labels that not everyone is buying into their "metal for the masses".

The other rock band to make

Weezer Made a Surprising Comeback This Summer

an enormous impact this summer was Weezer.

This is a band that came out of total musical obscurity to completely sell out an early spring tour before their new album was even released, and they then saw their new album, "the green album", debut at number four on the billboard charts in May.

The biggest reason for their success was the massive cult following that they had developed since their first album.

With myself included in that group, I can definitely echo how great it was to see them just explode seemingly out of nowhere.

Now the band is going out on another sold out tour this fall, and a new album is already in the works.

A problem facing these bands, as well as any other rock band that may receive mainstream success, is that their fanbase has become so disenchanted from the mainstream music scene that one appearance on mtv is enough for them turn their backs on them immediately.

Staind is a prime example of this. While they have sold a lot more records and have gained millions of fans by doing things such as playing on the Video Music Awards, they have also lost millions of fans for apparently "selling out", and these were the fans who would've still heen with them 5 years from now, whereas their new fans will hardly have even acknowledged their existence in as little as two months.

The good news is that this rock revolution has a promising future ahead, with recent releases from metal bands Slipknot and System of a Down both being successes, and with upcoming releases from the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Incubus, and the states-side release of indie rock darlings The Strokes, who have blown up over in England and are hoping to do so in their home country soon.

The current state of the recording industry may prevent another revolution the size of the one that Nirvana started ten years ago, but at the least, these bands and others can help keep true rock and roll alive and prevent the next generation of musicians from only being influenced by what Mtv has told them to be influenced by.

So no matter how much you hate seeing bands sell out, just remember, do you really want our next generation of music to be a hybrid of Limp Bizkit, Britney Spears, and Sugar Ray?

Be Prepared to Buy More Underwear

Jocelyn Jacques
Staff Writer

Ahhhh....the sound of a saw and nail gun in the morning just seems to do something to me.

Who would want to hear birds chirping, or the subtle huzzing sound of nearby traffic when you can sit in comfort in your room and hear hammer and nail? It's wonderful, really.

Returning to school this year was a grand experience. Never have I lived in a new residence hall, and let me tell you, I feel like a Queen here in Evergreen Village.

When you first set eyes upon this wonderful establishment, the first thing you notice is dirt. All kinds of dirt.

There is light brown dirt, darker brown dirt, and then just your generic dirt. But all and all, it's just a lot of dirt flying around.

When you open the back door of your house, rather than looking out at beautiful lush lawn, you see, you guessed it, dirt.

And when it rained last week, we had a beautiful, absolutely stunning mud landscape that could take anyone's breath away. In all honesty, I think I would rather look at the spray grass.

You know spray grass; it's the "grass substitute" they literally spray down on the ground? I think that would look better than dirt.

And at least spray grass has the potential to turn into grass at some point. But just plain dirt has no potential for anything except for mud and maybe little weeds.

Doesn't it sound peculiar that in this village we call "Evergreen" there is nothing green, ever? All we see is brown.

Maybe they should have called it Everbrown Village. That would suit our situation better. But, if dusty cars and mud puddles were all we had to worry about back here, then there would be nothing to write about would there?

Now I shouldn't say that there is no green at all in Evergreen. That would be a lie. Not a big lie, but just a little white lie.

There is some form of plant life growing in front of the townhouses. Call it "grass" if you must, but to me it looks like small corn plants.

And up until last Wednesday or so, it looked like a cornfield. The grass was about as high as the windows in some spots. It looked like we were living in some farmer's old field that he forgot about.

Now call me crazy, but if this

This Grass Has Been a Sight For Sore Eyes In Evergreen

new village of ours is suppose to impress the newcomers, shouldn't it be in pristine condition?

At one point of the grass fiasco, I honestly thought I saw cattle grazing in the common area. They have since cut the grass, but it's still not nice grass. It's crab grass.

You know what crab grass looks like. It's the stuff that when you try to re-seed your lawn, it comes up instead and looks very different from the nice thin, soft lawn. Even Gateway had real grass.

Evergreen gets the crab grass and weeds, maybe in the spring we could get some real lawn. I'm hopeful anyway.

Now, back to the whole hammer and nail idea. The center building of the Evergreen complex is still under construction. It's so under construction that Monday they just finished roofing it.

That center building is going to be the laundry facility. So now I ask you...where do you do your laundry? In your place of residence right? Yes? Good answer. Not us.

Nope, we can go to Gateway to do our laundry. Let's sit and think about that for a minute. Evergreen Village is on the uppermost corner of the campus.

We're out there. Gateway is across the street. And if the distance alone doesn't get to you, we can only do our laundry in Gateway between the hours of 8am and 5pm.

That is the only time that our cars are allowed to be parked in the laundry room parking lot. That's it. Okay...you tell this to 200 residents at Evergreen village, plus all the people that live in Gateway, and your talking about a mass of people trying to laundry all at once.

That's an equation for sheer disaster. There'll be soap flying, and suds spewing all over the place. I'm kidding of course, I mean what are the odds or chances that EVERYONE would go and do their laundry at the same time?

The hours are what get to me. I for one could only go over and do laundry between those hours on one or two days.

But I know most of my roommates and several friends of mine can not manage to get to Gateway to wash their clothes in the allotted time span.

Their solution was to purchase lots of skivvies, or as many of you call them, underwear. It's ridiculous. I just want to do laundry in the area that I live in, that's all.

What else can this girl complain about you ask? Isn't she ever content with what she has? Well, to answer your first question, that is all I plan on "complaining" about for this article.

And yes, I am very content to live here. I am amazed at the amount of space the college gave us to live in.

The bedrooms are huge, the kitchen brand new, and the bathrooms are many. It's just that there are some bugs that need to be worked out.

So if your ever in the mood for a good dust bowl, come on out to Evergreen, where the dirt always flies and the grass never grows. And if you want your laundry done, well, you'll just have to go someplace else.

The Summer That Was In Cinema

"Jurassic Park 3": The Raptors Wrap It Up At the Box Office

Matt Mancuso
Staff Writer

Looking back on the movie 'JP3", I would have to say that the experience I had was one of awe.

I went the opening night and the theater sold out both showings at 9:25.

The movie itself was full of wonderful special effects and the dinosaurs have never looked more real.

What added to this film was also the music and the atmosphere of not only fear but also suspense.

The two drawbacks this movie faced were for one, the movie was too short.

Many people coming out of the theater commented on the movie only lasting 92 minutes (in comparison to the other two "JP" movies, 127 min and 129 min respectfully).

The other flaw in the movie was the poor acting by Trevor Morgan, who played Erik Kirby. His acting wasn't at the same level as the other actor's.

I would say rent this, but don't add this to your collection.

"Final Fantasy: The Sprits Within": A Huge Reality Check

Now let me be a little biased for this movie just for a second. I would have to say that Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within has to be in the top 10 of my all time favorite movies.

However, at the box office this movie just didn't meet Squaresoft's budget quota.

The CG (computer generated) characters in this movie were so lifelike that even the critics had to sit back and wonder if they were real or not.

The storyline was geared towards fans of the video game series and didn't really target a non-gaming audience.

The movie itself is great to go see at least once, so that one can truly experience the sense of what computers can really do with movies, but other than that if you aren't a huge "Final Fantasy" fanatic like myself, you will not grasp a lot of the concepts.

I would have to say the majority of this movie could have been mistaken for parts of the "Final Fantasy VII and VIII" video games.

Putting my own views and preferences aside, I would say rent this movie but don't buy it unless you are a "Final Fantasy" fan.

"Planet of the Apes": Evolution Reversed

If you were looking for another cheesy remake of an old flick, you have come to the wrong place.

"Planet" took on a whole new realm of fantasy. It took what we knew about the original movies and spun us into a web and never let us go, not even at the cliff-hanging end.

The makeup and set design seemed so realistic, and again the apes took center stage to show humans who's boss.

Sitting in yet another sold out theater, I felt a rush like no other when the music picked up and there on the screen, read the words "Planet of the Apes."

This movie had it all. Charlton Heston and Linda Harrison both came back to the ape's world, with Harrison playing a captured human, and Heston playing an alter role as an Ape.

I would definitely rate this movie high on a must see list. It is a buyer and a keeper.

Clockwise from the upper left corner. Final Fantasy. Planet of the Apes, America's Sweethearts, Jurassic Park III

"America's Sweethearts": Not So Sweet

Laura Hinojosa
Staff Writer

"America's Sweethearts" starring Julia Roberts, John Cusack, and Catherine Zeta Jones did not live up to its promotional potential.

Eugene Levy and Jason Biggs return in American Pie 2

This movie was supposed to be this summer's best romantic comedy, but proved to be misleading to many.

"Sweetheart's" movie campaign was centered around Julia Roberts, who as many audiences found out, was not the main character.

The writers of this movie did not write up a good enough script for Roberts' potential.

Her character was a great one, but it just wasn't given enough time to develop fully on screen.

In addition, Catherine Zeta Jones' character along with John Cusack's character proved to be too whiney and very annoying.

Despite all of this, "America's Sweethearts" did get a pretty hig audience once released.

Why?

Well if you ask me, put the name of one of Hollywood's most talented actresses, who has a reputation for hit flicks, and you'll get an audience.

Julia Roberts is known for her sweet and fun-loving characters and this movie definitely aimed to please her fans.

However, in my opinion, this movie is a rental.

"Scary Movie 2": Be Afraid

Kristen Jay
Contributing Writer

The first "Scary Movie" made audiences laugh with its crude and sometimes shocking humor.

The sequel was still crude and shocking, but it lacked the humor that had made the first one such a hit.

Although many of the parodies started out funny, they continued until they felt not only grossly overdone, but downright stupid as well.

I also noticed that many of the parodies were from very recent movies and commercials, which confirmed my suspicion that not much time was put into the making of this movie.

Many of the original cast members returned, although how they came back after they had died in the first one was never quite explained.

In my opinion, this movie is worth sitting through to get the occasional laugh, but don't expect the level of humor that the first one had.

"American Pie 2": Reach For That Second Slice

After the disappointment of "Scary Movie 2," I was unsure of what to expect from "American Pie 2."

However, for me, "AP2" redeemed the very name of sequels.

This movie did not only live up to the hilarious standards set by the original, but surprisingly, it actually surpassed them.

The original cast is back, and the chemistry between the characters is still there as well.

After having spent a year away at college, the characters have developed just enough to make them more interesting, but not enough to make it feel like a completely different cast.

Beneath the non-stop laughs, I also thought that "AP2" had some good messages in it, not the least of which being the importance of friendship.

In my opinion, this is one of the funniest movies out there, and I would highly recommend it to anyone seeking a good laugh.

Upcoming Releases

Movies

9/21/01

"Glitter"- Mariah Carey's movie about a diva's rise to fame in the 1980's that seemingly drove her into the mental hospital.

9/28/01

"Don't Say A Word"- Thriller star-ring Michael Douglas as a psychologist whose daughter is kidnapped, and he is forced to attain a number from a mentally-ill patient of his to get her back.

"Zoolander"- Ben Stiller's latest about a male model who is forced to save the world. It is based on a skit that Stiller wrote for the VH1 Fashion Awards.

Music

9/18/01

Tori Amos- "Strange Little Girls"
Macy Gray- "The Id"
Jamiroquai- "A Funk Odyssey"
Live- "V"

9/25/01

The Strokes- "Is This Is?"
Tenacious D- "Tenacious D"
The Suicide Machines- "Steal This Record"

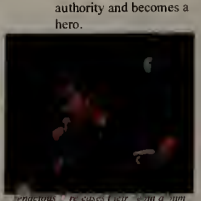
DVD/Video

9/18/01

Spy Kids- The surprise hit about two kids who have to rescue their parents, who happen to be spies
Driven- Sylvester Stallone drives a car really fast. This is about the jist of this one.

9/25/01

A Knight's Tale- Heath Ledger stars as a knight who defies authority and becomes a hero.



Tenacious D release their film on the 25th

Bumble's Corner : I'm Back

Let me take a moment to introduce myself to all the new freshman and the transfer students to the campus. I am the Bumble speaker of the campus or at least I like to think that I am.

This article that I write speaks about my opinion about the things that I think sometimes are not right on this campus.

This article is not intended to piss anyone off it is simply for entertainment purposes only.

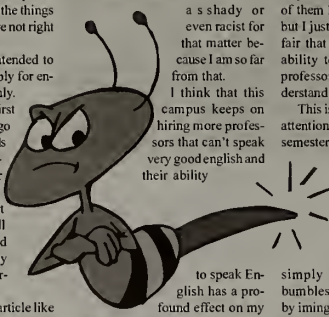
I want to start out first by saying my prayers go out to all who lost friends and family in the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001 in NYC.

Secondly, I want start out by apologizing for all the people that I pissed off last year, it was only for entertainment purposes as I said before. People should take this article like a comedian on stage and go with it. I might bash you in the beginning but I have no hard feelings towards any of the people that I did or will bash in the future.

So lets begin the wholesome goodness titled "Bumble's Corner". Again let me reiterate that this is solely my own opinion.

I am first going to touch on the topic of teacher's on this campus that are very well qualified to teach but have a hard time speaking our native language English.

I don't want this to come off as shady or even racist for that matter because I am so far from that.



I think that this campus keeps on hiring more professors that can't speak very good english and their ability to speak English has a profound effect on my grade.

My friend has this teacher who does not speak good english and the funny part is that she does not use a book so his grade is totally based on his ability to understand her.

Now you tell me, is that fair to you? I don't think so.

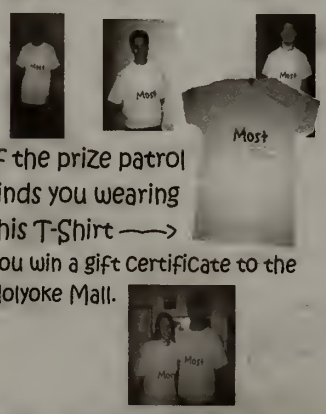
I am not putting anything past these teachers who can't speak decent english; they could possibly be the smartest people on earth, I just don't see why this college keeps on going out of their way to hire them. A lot of them have great personality's but I just don't feel that it is very fair that our grades rest on our ability to understand what the professor is saying and also understand the class discussion.

This is all that I feel deems any attention for the beginning of the semester.

If any people out there in WNEC land want to let me know of a topic they want me to cover contact me through the Westerner office or simply emailing me at bumblescorner@yahoo.com or by iming me. My screen name is bigbumble304.

Thank you for spending five minutes with me, watch out for the next article where we bash something else. Bubye!

by:
Big Bumble



Welcome Back WNEC

In case you haven't heard enough of it already, allow me to welcome you all back, or to, Western New England College.

Since we're going to be spending a lot of time together over the next year, let me introduce myself.

I am a senior and the editor of this newspaper. I, like many other seniors I know, am majoring in extra-circular activities.

Which brings me to an interesting question. Have you ever noticed that the further you get in your collegiate career, the less time you have to actually be a student?

Lately, I find myself so busy with meetings and activities that I barely have time time to read or study. But enough of my academic inadequacies.

The majority of this first issue is dedicated to the recent tragedies of September 11th.

By now, I'm sure that we've all cried and mourned a great deal, whether or not we were directly affected.

However, being the single most devastating act in history, it seems only fair that we do our part to cover the story from all angles.

In the last week and a half, I have never been more proud to be an American citizen, or a student at Western New England College.

The outpouring of love and support from this campus has been truly remarkable.

The candle light vigil was planned and coordinated in a matter of hours and resulted in one of the largest turnouts in WNEC history.

The memorial service on Friday was also well-attended and even better represented. President Caprio, Professor Meeropol, Joel Dusoe, and Chandra Bellamy were among the speakers.

I have never been as moved as I was that day, listening to all of the speeches. For that reason, I want to extend a personal thank you to everyone who participated and contributed.

You have restored my faith in the college community and in people in general.

Moving right along, this would not be a proper "letter from the editor" article if I did not include a personal plug for the newspaper.

At the student activites expo, close to 50 students signed up to write for The Westerner. Sadly, only a very small portion of those students have joined our staff.

We understand that not everybody has time to write an article every other week. But, you could also be a contributing writer and write only when you have something you'd like to express.

Or, if you really have something you'd like to get off your chest, feel free to write an editorial. Many people use that opportunity to express their frustrations, concerns, or opinions.

More often than not, this will inspire others to respond and we can usually get a good debate going.

If you are the extreme opposite and are looking for more responsibility, you could always join the editorial staff (which we would gladly welcom!).

Either way, we strongly encourage all of you to take part in The Westerner and we welcome your imput and/or advice.

Until the next time, thank you for reading and have a great two weeks!

by:
Melanie Gura

Resist Hate With Understanding

On Tuesday we experienced the most horrific act of hate we have ever known. Due to a tiny fraction's abhorrence for life, all members of the world community feel an incomprehensible pain.

As we asked "why?", our initial fear was compounded by our lack of understanding.

Seeking some kind of answer for the world to make sense again, we want simple answers to complex and possibly unanswerable questions. Some, unfortunately, have answered with hate.

History has shown that after an incomprehensible tragedy, societies too often seek a scapegoat - some innocent group on which to vent their rage, regardless of whether they were actually responsible.

During World War I, German-Americans were harassed for the actions of their countrymen on the other side of the ocean.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Japanese-American citizens and families were imprisoned in detainment camps, in a lamentable chapter of history that the US has not yet adequately reconciled.

During the Cold War Senator Joseph McCarthy persecuted artists and intellectuals in the name of resisting Soviet Communism.

Iraqi-Americans were discriminated against during the Gulf War. More recently after the school shootings, Goths and members of other alternative cultures were placed under suspicion.

After the Oklahoma City bombing it was immediately assumed that the perpetrator was a foreign Islamic Fundamentalist - until Timothy McVeigh turned out to be a conservative Christian white American.

The aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing has shown us the fallacy of making racist assumptions of guilt. We must be on guard not to make the same mistake again.

Scapegoating is always deleterious and futile. Not only does it distract from rebuilding after crises, it infects society with the disease of hate, the same problem which caused this crime.

Sadly, after this crisis Arab-American and Muslim citizens are being targeted by hatemongers seeking to wreak vengeance upon someone, anyone, for this disaster.

Many who wear Islamic dress such as the hijab are afraid to go out in public for fear of racist violence. Reports have already appeared of vandalism at mosques and Muslim-owned businesses.

In Bridgeview, Illinois an angry, flag-waving mob of three hundred attempting to intimidate a mosque had to be dispersed by police.

In Mesa, Arizona, an Indian gas station proprietor was murdered. The suspect reportedly shouted "I'm for America all the way" as he was arrested.

Our justice system is based on the fundamental principle of individual responsibility for crime. A person is culpable only for what he does himself.

It is a grave affront to our system of jurisprudence and the rule of law when a whole group is placed under suspicion, whether denoted by ethnicity or religion. To accuse an Arab-American of somehow being connected to this crime just because of his culture is as egregious, and ridiculous, as it would be to incriminate an Irish-American for the actions of the Irish Republican Army.

We must resist the urge to ethnically incriminate on an international scale as well.

In a propaganda-like gesture, the news networks constantly replayed a short piece of footage of a few Palestinians celebrating the attacks.

Many viewers saw this very small group - many of them children acting as children often do before a television camera - and assumed that they were typical of Palestinians.

The media unquestioningly presented this group of a few dozen people as representative of the over three million Palestinians residing in the Occupied Territories.

This irresponsible act of selective journalism would be like filming a rally of the Ku Klux Klan or other fringe group and broadcasting it as typical of all Americans.

The media declined to cover the moment of silence in mourning observed by over one million Palestinian schoolchildren. Expressions of condolence have poured in from many Palestinian organizations.

While we resist blanket ethnic labeling at home, we must do the same abroad.

This attack was against the fundamental infrastructure of our society - our freedom, government, and laws.

Frighteningly, in the search for some semblance of security in the midst of our fear, the public seems ready to give up some of those freedoms.

Saudi millionaire Osama bin Laden has emerged as a key suspect in the attacks.

Unfortunately, most of the media has already tried and convicted him in their coverage, portraying him as the certain mastermind behind this and many other acts of terrorism.

Indeed, the evidence against Mr. Bin Laden is considerable, possibly incontrovertible. Nevertheless, one of our most treasured American freedoms is the right be considered innocent until proven guilty.

We are already talking about punishing Mr. Bin Laden when he has not yet been tried before an international court such as The Hague. This is a right extended to all the accused, no matter the gravity of their crime.

If we convict Mr. Bin Laden in the court of public opinion and the media circus, and then execute him extra-judicially, we will only be joining the terrorist forces in taking down the freedoms we hold dear.

If we truly value the sanctity of human life, we must extend basic rights to all human beings, no matter how vile.

The hunt for Mr. Bin Laden is one aspect of the thirst for vengeance that is corrupting our public discourse. Certainly, we must defend ourselves, and all of humanity from terrorist violence.

What would vengeance accomplish, but to stoke the fires of hatred already burning too intensely within us? It is probably that this attack was an act of revenge.

So are we to show that vengeance is wrong with a reciprocal act of vengeance? Are we to show that killing is wrong by killing the killers? When will the vicious cycle of violence end?

Mohandas K. Gandhi once said that "an eye for an eye leaves the whole world blind".

This situation has the potential to escalate into a third world war, and that could happen unless we work to diffuse tensions, instead of escalating them.

In response to the attacks, some have proposed bombing Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. Such an attack would not hurt the terrorists themselves, who are probably in hiding, but instead kill innocent Afghani civilians.

The majority of Afghanis are already oppressed by the Taliban's theocratic government. Women are kept veiled and locked indoors, denied their right to work or an education.

Gays and lesbians live in fear of execution because of their orientation. Will the United States become the people's, demanding their human rights from the Taliban?

Or will our nation become their new oppressor, killing them for the actions of others that they cannot control?

Furthermore, as we come together as a nation, it is critical that our revived patriotism remain a spirit of unity and civic engagement.

It is all too easy in times such as these for legitimate care for our country to degenerate into jingoism, a chauvinist, belligerent pride and xenophobic outlook on the world.

To resolve this crisis, we must avoid a bunker mentality and unilateralist arrogance.

Instead, we must cooperate on a level of mutual respect with our fellow members of the world community, not letting our hubris get in the way of progress.

Because the root of hate is fear of what we do not understand, we can resist by educating ourselves.

Take some time in your day to learn more about Arabian and Islamic culture. Read a copy of Al-Qu'ran, the holy text of Islam. Dine in a Middle-Eastern restaurant, or listen to Arabian music.

With such understanding comes an end to fear, and an increased respect and mutual knowledge of the diverse cultures that make up our nation.

These acts of hate come to be titled "The Attack on America". If we as a nation are united in our courage and ideals, then the terrorists will have failed.

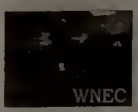
If we succumb to racism, and give up our fundamental human rights, we will be complicit in the destruction what America stands for.

by: James Russell

ATTENTION WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE STUDENTS

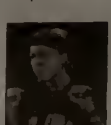
AIR FORCE ROTC IS HERE

- 2 and 3 Year SCHOLARSHIPS Available
- Scholarship Opportunities for Graduate Students
- Excellent Salary & Benefit Package After Graduation
- Over 200 Different Jobs to Choose From
- Open to All Academic Majors
- Unprecedented Opportunities to Fly!
- You can try Air Force ROTC without obligation to join



AFROTC Detachment 370, UMASS-Amherst, is going to be offering Aerospace Studies 112 at WNEC starting Spring 2001. This class covers basic Air Force doctrine and leadership. See the WNEC on-line catalog for details. A staff member will be on campus every Wednesday and Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm located in the Army/Air Force ROTC building. Stop by and find out more about the program!

Perhaps you didn't realize AFROTC was available to you; well now you know! Don't miss your chance—How to contact us: Call (413)545-2437/2451 or 782-1332 email: afrotc@acad.umass.edu or clane0@wnec.edu www.umass.edu/afrotc



AIR FORCE ROTC - LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE STARTS HERE!

Running Back Breaks Yet Another School Record

Proceeds from Homecoming Game to Assist Red Cross in Relief Efforts

Kevin Hessett
Sports Editor

Western New England College senior running back Marvin Langley (Lewiston, Maine) is continuing to add to the Golden Bear record book.

Langley, who was named to both the 2001 d3football.com and Don Hansen's Weekly Football Gazette Pre-Season All-America Teams, recently set the school record for career rushing yards in a 20-13 loss at Westfield State on September 7th.

He now has 2,577 career rushing yards, surpassing former teammate Andy Kaneris' 2,379 yards.

"Marvin is the hardest working player on our squad," said Golden Bears head coach Gerry Martin.

Through the first two games this season, Langley is second in the conference with 265 yards rushing on 27 carries (an astonishing 9.8 yards per carry) along with two touchdowns.

After rushing for over 100 yards in both games, Langley has been named to the New England Football Conference (NEFC) honor roll for each of the first two weeks. His 84-yard touchdown run against Westfield State ranks as the school's second all-time longest run.

Last season, the Golden Bears' running back led the NEFC in rushing with 1,253 yards (139.2 per game), all-purpose yards with 1,745 yards (193.9 per game), and scoring with 114 points.

His 12.7 points per game tied him for fifth nationally in Division III, while he was ranked seventh in all-purpose yards.

Those numbers earned Langley the 2000 NEFC Co-Offensive Player-of-the-Year award, in addition to being selected to both the ECAC Division III Northeast and the New England Football Writers Division II/III All-Star teams.

This weekend you can catch Langley and the rest of the Golden Bears in action at the Homecoming Game against Salve Regina (ranked fifth in the latest New England Division III Poll) at 1 p.m. at WNEC Field.

(Athlete Department Photo)

Senior Marvin Langley breaks through the Nichols defense

Tickets for the Homecoming contest are $4 for adults, and $2 for senior citizens over 60 and children under 12.

All proceeds will be donated to the local Red Cross to assist in the relief efforts in New York and Washington.

WNEC Sports Update: A Brief Review of the Fall Sports

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Both the men's soccer and women's volleyball teams hosted tournaments here at Western New England College recently.

The Golden Bear Classic was a four team men's soccer tournament with Framingham State, Elms College, and Notre Dame (N.H.) College that was held on September 8 & 9.

WNEC got off to a great start in thrashing Framingham State, 6-1, behind a goal and two assists from Senior tri-captain forward Josh Bell (Warwick, R.I.).

After NAIA regional powerhouse Notre Dame College dismantled Elms 7-1, the Championship Match was set for Sunday. The match was well-played on both sides, however WNEC fell to the Saints 2-0.

Three Golden Bears received All-Classic Team honors. Two freshman, forward Jose Molina and defender Scott Thornton, along with Bell were named to the team.

That same weekend, the women's volleyball team hosted its first annual WNEC Invitational. After a solid two days of playing, the Golden Bears beat Southern New Hampshire 3-1 (33-31, 19-30, 30-22, 30-19) in the third place match.

Williams College, who defeated WNEC in the semifinals, came away with the victory in the six-team tournament.

Freshman setter Mandee Signor (East Haven, Conn.) was the lone Golden Bear to be named to the All-Tournament team after registering 33 assists in the semifinal.

Women's soccer was involved in a tournament that same weekend as well, however their's was the Mayor's Cup in Oneonta, New York with defending national champs and number one ranked College of New Jersey, Oneonta State, and Hartwick College.

WNEC dropped the opening match to a strong Oneonta State squad, 2-0, but rebounded in the third-place match with a 2-0 win against Hartwick, who had only lost 1-0 to the defending champs the day before.

Junior forward Molly Burke (Westfield, Mass.) notched both goals in the match. The women's soccer team was 4-3 as of Tuesday and 3-0 in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC).

The women's tennis team was riding a perfect 3-0 record going into Tuesday's match at Curry College.

Coach Jenn Kolins has much to be excited about as her team, which has a lot of new faces this year, defeated GNAC foe Saint Joseph College (Conn.) 7-2 over the weekend, reversing the scoreline from last year's 7-2 loss to the Blue Jays.

Freshman Tricia Troiano (Stewart Manor, N.Y.) was named the GNAC women's tennis Player-of-the Week after going 4-0 in wins against Worcester State and Saint Joseph College.

The field hockey team has been playing well also as of late. Their three-game unbeaten streak was ended on Tuesday following a tough 1-0 loss to a solid Smith College team. Freshman Adrienne Guay scored a hat trick in an 8-0 win over Anna Maria College on Saturday.

(Athlete Department Photo)

Members of the field hockey team prepares for a penalty corner shot

Soccer Teams Up With ESPN

Press Release

Western New England College is participating in a unique fundraising program, selling subscriptions to ESPN The Magazine to help raise much-needed funds for its soccer team. Headed by Coach Erin Sullivan, the Golden Bears are selling two-year subscriptions (52 issues) for $40 - a savings of 74 percent off the newsstand price.

Unlike other findraising efforts, an unprecedented 75 percent of the total sale goes back to the team. With checks made payable to Western New England College/ Men's Soccer Program, the program receives $30 for every subscription sold.

With hundreds of participating schools, ESPN The Magazine's innovative Coaches Fundraising Program is helping to keep athletic programs up and running. Local teams decide how the funds earned are used, including purchasing new equipmen and uniforms, defreaying travel and tournament costs or holding an awards banquet.

For more information, please contact Coach Erin Sullivan at (413) 782-1764.

Alumni Healthful Living Center Hours of Operation

AHLC # 782-1518	Building Hours	Wellness	Strength Room	Pool*
Monday Wednesday	7AM - 12MID	7AM - 11:30PM	7AM - 9PM	7AM - 9AM 12NOON - 2PM 4PM - 9PM
Tuesday Thursday	7AM - 12MID	7AM - 11:30PM	7AM - 9PM	12NOON - 2PM 4PM - 9PM
Friday	7AM - 8:30PM	7AM - 8PM	7 AM - 8PM	7AM - 9AM 12NOON - 2PM 4PM - 8PM
Saturday	9AM - 5PM	9AM - 5PM	9AM - 5PM	9AM - 2PM
Sunday	1PM - 12MID	1PM - 8PM	1PM - 8PM	1PM - 8PM

Please note: These are the general hrs. of operation for the pool and do not reflect

BONFIRE!

Support Western New England College athletes at the Bonfire!

WHEN

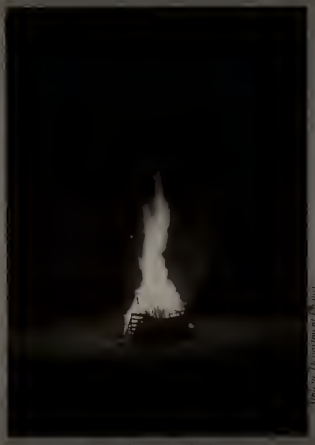
Friday, September 21 8-9 p.m.

WHERE

Tundra

50/50 Raffle
Pep Band WNEK
Throw and Kick Contest

Sponsored by Sport Managment Association



RUN FOR JOE

Lance Corporal Giuseppe "Joe" Leto, USMC
died in July, 1999 on a conditioning hike at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Please join us in our 3rd annual Run For Joe to celebrate Joe's life. All proceeds go to the **Giuseppe Leto Scholarship Fund** at Canterbury School where Joe was a graduate of the class of 1997. The scholarship will be awarded to a day-student from the area.

Participate in any way you can - run, jog, or walk, volunteer or send a donation. Registration is $20 a person and runners will receive a Run For Joe t-shirt.

Join us at Canterbury School
Sunday October 21st.
Registration will start at 11:30am and the Run will start at 1:30pm.
Hope to see you there!
Call Canterbury School for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Fraternities - Sororities
Clubs - Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this quarter with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three fundraising event. No sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

1 HOUR FILM DEVELOPING

FEATURING FRAMES • ENLARGEMENTS • INSTANT PASS

"Old Fashioned Quality without The Wait"

IN A FLASH
One Hour Photo Processing

Breckwood Shoppes
477 Breckwood Blvd.
(Across from Western New England

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-7 pm, Sat. 10am-5 pm

Kodak

FREE 2nd Set of Prints
with any roll processed

Good on all C-41 process, 35mm, 110 & 126 rolls.

The United Way Needs Your Help!

October Volunteer Opportunities:
Flu Clinic Helpers
Girl Scout Volunteers
Book Repair
Teen Center Help
Food Pantry Help
Receptionist
Fundraising Committee Member
Clothing Sorter
Office Assistant
MCAS Tutors
Coaches

Contact Kristen Beam at the United Way
73[illegible]-2691
or
Adina Elfant, Director of Learning Beyond the Classroom
located on the 2nd floor of the Campus Center
782-1687

INVESTIGATE INTERVIEWING

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO MOCK INTERVIEW WITH AREA EMPLOYERS

October 24, 2001
Campus Center - 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

- Gain valuable experience in the interview process.
- Get feedback on interview skills.
- Practice various interview techniques.
- Gain insight into what employers are looking for in today's job market.

DON'T MISS THIS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO SHARPEN YOUR INTERVIEWING SKILLS!

INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

For more information or to schedule an interview, contact Laurie Maratea - Internship Assistant
Career and Human Resources
2nd Floor Campus Center
782-1560

Lessons That Will Last A Lifetime.

OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

Put your college degree to use by enrolling into the Air Force Officer Training School. Upon successful completion, you will become a commissioned Air Force officer with benefits like – great starting pay, medical and dental care, management and travel opportunities. To discover how high a career in the Air Force can take you, call **1-800-423-USAF**, or visit our website at **www.airforce.com**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Blue Moon Coffee Roasters

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 48/Issue 2 • October 5, 2001

Caprio Outlines the "State of the College"

James Russell
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, September 26th, the majority of the administration and faculty gathered in Sleith 100 to hear the College's President, Dr. Anthony Caprio, outline the "State of the College."

This presentation was like the President's annual State of the Union address to Congress in microcosm. Dr. Caprio described the current situation at the College and advocated methods for improving this educational institution.

Caprio confidently took the podium before the capacity crowd, which included the Board of Trustees and alumni. Notably, few students attended.

He commenced with a reflection on WNEC's fiftieth anniversary as an independent degree-granting institution, "an arbitrary demarcation" he stated, "to reflect upon where we've been and where we want to go."

The President recalled reading the College's original charter, and wondered "what thinking got the College to that point", and thus what inspiration could be gained for the present.

"The school evolves on eternal circumstances that surround time" he said, describing how the College has been shaped by the various eras though it has existed - from its initial student body of returning GI's from World War II to the present.

Having reached it's Silver Anniversary, Dr. Caprio expressed his confidence in the College's stability, assuring "We are on stable ground, and our footing is quite firm."

This speech and the college improvements suggested within it are all in preparation for the College's reaccreditation in March of 2002.

At that time, representatives of NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) will examine the College's teaching and facilities, and ascertain its worthiness to grant degrees.

In order to succeed in the evaluation, the College has implemented a Facilities Master Plan and has refined it's Mission Statement, the document which defines WNEC's purpose as an institution of higher learning.

"We borrowed from the old and reevaluated, capitalizing on the strengths of our past" said Dr. Caprio of the Mission Statement.

President Anthony Caprio

The Facilities Master Plan is an agenda developed by WNEC in conjunction with the consulting firm Saratoga Associates, to develop the College's new buildings.

Additions and renovations to the Library as well as the construction of the new Welcome Center in the former Sleith parking lot being two aspects of the Plan.

"Things are going rather well" said Dr. Caprio of the Plan, expressing his holistic vision. "It is exciting to see what's going on, though at times it may be disparate, we have to make it a part of the big picture."

However, Western New England College is also facing some considerable challenges. "Are we really meeting our full potential?" asked the President before enumerating the difficult tasks ahead.

Some programs have been discontinued due to lack of enrollment. The Masters of Management in Information Systems degree has been eliminated, as well as the Weekend MBA program.

This pattern is reflected in several disciplines. Stated the President, "Law school enrollments are on the decline, and off-campus enrollments are flat, two programs on which we depend on for revenue."

He warned that "Many programs are in jeopardy." Off-campus enrollment is especially critical in Criminal Justice, due to the Quinn Bill. This piece of legislation would offer pay incentives to police officers who advance their education. Over 70% of the Criminal Justice program is off-campus.

This problem is due in part to

Please see Caprio, pg 2

A Rewarding Day at Homecoming

Chris Wystepek
Staff Writer

On sunny homecoming morning, family, friends, alumni, and staff came together to reward fifteen student leaders with the Skookum Award.

The Skookum Award is given to the fifteen seniors who show excellence in leadership through academics, co-curricular activities, and athletics.

Each recipient was given a framed certificate and a rock with their name on it to signify "The Rock" of Western New England College.

Besides the fifteen seniors receiving an award, one alumnist was also awarded Alumnus of Year.

Kevin Delbridge of Wellesley, MA graduated from Western New England College summa cum laude from the College in 1977 with a B.S. in Business Administration degree.

Furthermore, he is a chartered financial analyst and a certified public accountant.

He continues to be the managing director of HarbourVest Partners, LLC, and is a member of a team that purchased Hancock Venture Partners, where he

Please see Skookum, pg 3

Recipients of the 2001 - 2002 Skookum Award

NEWS
Get the letest on whet's new in Student Senete.
page 3

EDITORIALS
See the controversiel debetes unfold before your eyes.
pages 8 & 9

A&E
The Bleck Crowes perform at The Big E.
page 6

SPORTS
The Jordan comebeck: whet do students reelly think?
pages 10 & 11

President Caprio Speaks on the Future of WNEC

continued from pg 1

an environment of increased competition and college mergers. Many businesses can provide training, especially in Information Systems, in a non-academic environment.

Online courses from for-profit institutions, such as the University of Phoenix, also compete for potential students.

The potential of a new state law school, possibly at the University of Massachusetts, poses a serious risk to the WNEC School of Law. Applications to the College's Law School would decline, making it "another competitor in an already crowded market".

The President also displayed statistics showing that there is now a "movement toward bigness". That is, the majority of students today would prefer to attend a large university of 25,000 students or more, rather than a small college like WNEC.

In fact, only 22% surveyed indicated that they would be interested in attending a private four-year college.

Dr. Caprio was still encouraged by many in the survey who stated that they did not know what type of school they would like to attend, considering it a potential source of applicants for WNEC.

Also boding well is increased number of high schoolers who plan to attend college. "Sixty percent of jobs require a college education" he said, "and the pay differential between high school and college degrees has never been greater."

Dr. Caprio suggested several steps to remain competitive as an institution. "We have to be proactive" he said, "not just to react, but to be ahead of the curve."

Throughout his speech, the President used corporate terminology to refer to the College. Students are "consumers or clients", and the college provides a "product or service", namely education.

The College must find a way to market this "product" to new demographics. For that reason, the College has hired another consulting firm to do market research.

While some might consider using such lingo "too worldly" for academia, the President replied that "as a college we have a history of facing realities."

One major change is in the demographics of college applicants. "This is not the Baby Boom coming our way" he said. In a decade, 80% of applicants will be "non-white" and 50% of Hispanic origin. "If students are a different composition from now we much change" said Dr. Caprio.

He continued by explaining how WNEC can have a "distinctive identity" to stand out from its competitors. "How do we describe ourselves, what words or phrases describe WNEC?" he asked.

The President said that certain new projects and buildings are "symbols of institutional seriousness" that enhance the reputation of the College. For example, the Educational Technology Center under development in D'Amour library is a symbol of the College's commitment to technology.

Focus groups of faculty are convening as to how WNEC can enhance this identity. "What benefits are delivered in a way that is distinct among equally ambitious competitors?"

The President cited further survey data that showed applicants value an institution with certain ideals that it represents. For example, religious schools are gaining in popularity. "While we are nonreligious" said the President, "a sense of values is our anchor".

He listed the five types of institutions of higher learning that would exist into the next century. The first is the highly prestigious. The second is the distinctive institution with a focus. The third is large, cosmopolitan university. The fourth, a "hybrid between the adaptable and the distinctive", is the category he believes WNEC must aim for. "The fifth kind" he concluded, "are Closed."

The latter part of the speech emphasized Learning Beyond the Classroom, a key factor in the Mission Statement.

While a popular concept, the President stated "we have not yet defined the benefit". He suggested implementing LBC in all aspects of the curriculum. He illustrated this point by going through the course catalog and suggesting possible LBC experiences in each class.

For example, an art class could attend the Springfield Museums, or International Business could collaborate with an overseas branch of American Saw, a locally based manufacturing firm.

To continue the corporate metaphor, the President proposes a "TQM" or "Total Quality Management" approach. TQM is a management strategy that involves improving all aspects of a business while preventing problems through greater examination.

In conclusion, the President expressed his hope that WNEC can develop that distinction and remain competitive past the reaccreditation and into the future.

"We should be not adapters, not reformers, but on the cutting edge" said the President. "Just because we're not Harvard, we're not Yale, does not mean we can't be revolutionary, and I advocate revolution!"

After the applause, the audience asked questions about the College's ranking and finances. One man inquired as to the amount of funds in the College's endowment.

The Board of Trustees replied somberly. "These are times that require us to stretch." At the end of the last fiscal year, the endowment had a small surplus of $221,000. However, with the recent downturn in the economy, "the endowment has suffered like most investments", according to the Board. There was $4,000,000 of unrealized loss.

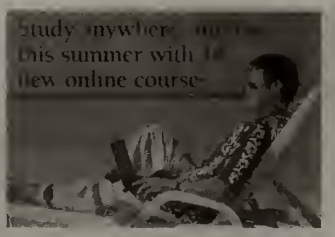
This decline in giving was partially offset by the college receiving the estate of the late William Sleith, after whom Sleith Hall is named, for a gain of $2,000,000.

Mr. Tom Wozniak of Residence Life inquired as to why WNEC is absent from U.S. News & World Report's ranking list, a popular reference for those selecting a college.

Dr. Caprio replied that WNEC is considered a "Regional" institution and thus does not fall under the national scale rankings. Therefore, WNEC is listed alphabetically with regional schools, making it appear as if we are near the bottom.

Colleges are also ranked as to various "tiers." WNEC has recently advanced from the third to the second tier, however only first tier schools make the magazine's rankings.

The President also reiterated that WNEC must more distinctive identity, as it is often confused with similarly named institutions, such as New England School of Law. Alumni giving, which is down at WNEC, is also a factor in the rankings.



Do you have a course you'd like to complete this summer?

Western New England College's Continuing Education Office is offering 18 undergraduate and graduate courses entirely over the Internet this summer. Imagine it. Study from home, the beach, or anywhere! And the price is right. Take advantage of special "Get-Acquainted-With-WNEC-Online" tuition rates for summer 2001.

The courses include the following subjects: accounting, computer information systems, criminal justice, English, humanities, management, marketing, psychology, and sociology.

For more information and to register, visit www.online.wnec.edu or call 413-782-1249 or 800-325-1122, ext. 1249.

Western New England College

WNEC Celebrates 50 Years of Academic Excellence

Adam Wellington
Staff Writer

Fifty years ago, 32 acres of land was purchased off of Wilbraham road. Ever since, an institution has been growing, based on integrity, hard work, and dedication.

To celebrate fifty years of success, a birthday party for the college was held on Wednesday, September 25th in the Rivers Memorial Building. The party was packed with Faculty, Alumni, Trustees, local community leaders, and students who were all excited to be there.

The mood was positive, as members of the student senate wore attire from all of the previous decades, and most everyone was in cheerful conversation. People visited areas that displayed WNEC yearbooks, pictures, and memorabilia from eras of the past.

To begin the festivities, Bob Campanella, President Caprio, and Thomas Barton, the chairman of the board of trustees all gave supportive and energetic speeches. The happy birthday song was played afterwards, and everyone happily sang to it.

In the speeches, which were energetic and very positive, there was a lot emphasis on the state of the college, how it has grown, and how it will grow in the future.

Student Senate President Joel Dusoe stated, "As the college celebrates it's 50th birthday, it's great to see the institution growing physically, academically, and in all other areas. The first fifty years were a tremendous success, and I believe that the second fifty years will be more successful than the first."

The party included music hits from the fifties to today's popular music, setting the mood to reflect on the college's eventful and successful history.

The positive energy seemed to be contagious, and everyone had a good time at what was probably the best and biggest birthday party the college has had yet.

The tone has been set for the future, and all that can be seen on the horizon is a continuation of the school spirit and dedication that everyone shares in providing for such a fine institution.

Skookum Awards

Continued from pg 1

worked as general partner for nine years.

This year's Skookum recipients have done numerous tasks for both on and off-campus programs.

Many have held leadership positions in clubs and organization as well has volunteering for off campus activities like Habitat for Humanities or working in a soup kitchen.

Either way, each award receipent played a factor of representing Western New England College to the fullest.

This year, the Grand Skookum Award winner and two Royal Skookum Awards werre announced. This year's Royal Skookum Award winners were Jamie DeMaria from Bristol, CT and Daniel Wystepek from Warwick, NY.

This year's Grand Skookum Award winner was Renata Ball from Oakland, CA. Ball has been very active ever since her freshmen year. Some of her accomplishments include being the past president of United and Mutually Equal, Diversity Chair for the Campus Activities Board, and and a Peer Advisor.

Not only is she heavily involved on campus, but she also has many off campus volunteer activities that make her stand in the spot light. She has participated in the Walk for Breast Cancer, YMCA San Fransico, and the Volunteers of America, just to name a few.

Her enthusiasm and commitment to Western New England College community makes her very deserving of the Grand Skookum honor.

The following are this year's 2001 Skookum Award Recipients:

Renata Ball (Oakland, CA) Major: Communication, Minor: Economics and History

Jamie DeMaria (Bristol, CT) Major: Psychology

Daniel Wystepek (Warwick, NY) Major: Marketing, Concentration: Sport Management

Chris Wystepek (Warwick, NY) Major: Marketing, Concentration: Sport Management

Kelly Goodyear (Meriden, CT) Major: Management, Minor: Spanish and CIS

Kevin Hassett (Pembroke, MA) Major: International Business, Concentration: Sport Management

William Leuck (Salem, CT) Major: Environmental Science, Minor: Chemistry and Biology

Carrie Bresnahan (Dalton, MA) Major: English Communications, Minor: Social Work

Kevin Forti (Wayland, MA) Major: Technical Management

John Meredith (Walton, NY) Major: Government

Rebecca Sorci (Chicopee, MA) Major: Biomedical Engineering

Chris Cutler (Cumberland, RI) Major: Criminal Justice

Sylvia Musumeci (East Hartford, CT) Major: Government

Laura Hinojosa (Laredo, TX) Major: Psychology Minor: Philosophy

Danny Sera (Ludlow, MA) Major: Accounting, Finance, and Management

Student Senate Update

Sarah Mosier
Student Senate Vice-President

On behalf of the Student Senate and the Student Senate President, Joel Dusoe, I would like to welcome you back to what we hope will be a successful year.

The semester is certainly well on its way, and Student Senate would like to get feedback from clubs and organizations as to how your year is going so far.

To obtain such information, we are inviting you and all students to the Open Forum on October 18th. The Open Forum was developed last year, with the goal of having it be a sounding board for obtaining suggestions on how the Senate can help you, the student body.

As a result the Open Forum will be recurring with hopes that it will be as successful as last year! We represent you, and would like nothing better than to obtain a better understanding of what you want, as students! Please spread the word!

We would also encourage any suggestions or comments to be brought up in Student Senate meetings, which are on a weekly basis.

Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 12:45 in LaRiviere 300. Please come and tell us what is on your mind! Remember, your elected representative's job is to listen to your ideas, so utilize this chance to voice your opinion!

In addition, we would like to inform you about the new and unfortunate situation of our empty position of Finance Chairperson. Brian Katz, the appointed chairperson for this academic year regrettably did not return to school this fall. As a result, Student Senate has been actively searching for the best possible replacement for Brian. However, it takes time to find the right person for this position.

We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding, as we know the absence of a finance chairperson can directly affect your club's budget and/or activities planned for the beginning of the semester.

In the beginning of October, the Finance Committee will be meeting with clubs that submitted a budget either at the end of last year or the beginning of this year. It is also our hope that a Finance Committee Chairperson will be appointed by mid-October.

Please keep in mind we are trying our very best to make sure every club has adequate funding this year, and we will keep you up-to-date with this issue.

Again, welcome back and we all hope you are enjoying the beginning of your semester! Student Senate invites you all to join the Senate meetings and we hope to hear from you this year!

tions Office.

THE *Westerner*

Melanie Gura
Editor

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Eric Hanusek
A & E Editor

Joel Dusoe
Op/Ed Editor

Jennifer Gardner
Melissa Harris
Laura Hinojosa
Jocelyn Jacques
Matt Mancuso
Chris Purcell
James Russell
Adam Wellington
Chris Wystepek
Staff Writers

Cliff Vachon
Roving Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Sarah Mosier
Contributing Writer

Cliff Vachon
Athletic Deartment
Photos This Issue

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Annual Bonfire and Pep Rally Rouse School Spirit

Jennifer Gardner
Staff Writer

As I walked out to the tundra, I saw all the fall sports teams getting pumped up for the pep rally.

My eyes then traveled right to the bonfire and I thought, "Wow, this is just like the pep rally and bonfire in Grease". It was however, not the same.

There was a fire; both Grease and WNEC have that in common. There was the inspiring speech from the head coach of the football team. There was the football team, all bound together and pumped up for their homecoming game.

The major difference was the sense of unity that we all felt, as the Golden Bear Pep Band played "The Star Spangled Banner" as we all looked at the American flags mounted onto the back of a monster pick-up truck.

After this brief moment of solemnity, the crowd of roughly 200 spectators and the athletes erupted in cheer and the pep rally got under way.

The women's tennis team was represented, as were the golf, women's soccer, volleyball, field hockey, and cross country teams.

The men's soccer team made their impact known as freshman Jose Molina got the crowd laughing when he and fellow teammates celebrated in the mock style of the Honduras National Team, simulating a row boat in the middle of the field.

The night, however, was owned by the football team. Running through the green paper barrier, the football team seemed united in it's purpose; a win against Salve Regina.

The crowd cheered along as the captains and the coach thanked everyone for coming out and wished all teams good luck in their homecoming games.

For homing coming weekend scores, see the sports section.

The WNEC football team looks on as Dr. Michael Theulen speaks

2001 Homecoming Bonfire

600 Days: A Motivational Adventure

Chris Purcell
Staff Writer

Students were encouraged to "Write down their dreams, and do whatever they can to accomplish them." When author and speaker Kevin Davidsen spoke during the latest freshman focus program.

Davidsen is the author of 600 days: A Motivational Adventure to 30 countries, a book targeted towards high school and college students about his 600 day journey to thirty countries on five continents, and what he had to do to accomplish these goals.

The speaker reflected on his freshman year at Hamilton College, when he discovered that his dream was to travel around the world before the age of 25.

He wrote this dream on a piece of paper and taped it to his wall. From that day forward he had to look at that dream every day.

He decided that in order to fulfill his dream, he needed to graduate early. To do this, he took extra classes and graduated in three years with a degree in psychology and economics in 1994.

Davidsen went on to tell the freshman about his adventures including his regrets, fun times, and even a few scary moments. He then encouraged each person to do what he did; write down your dream, and do everything you can to accomplish it.

Each student was provided a worksheet to better understand how to accomplishing their dream. Kevin warned all dreams should be manageable, measurable, and makeable.

He also listed ways each person could improve their community and how to relax when we are stressed.

Also included in the presentation, was a slide show with pictures of his world travels. The presentation itself got mixed reviews from the freshman in attendance.

"He gave good ideas on how to set goals for yourself but the presentation as a whole was pretty boring" recalled freshman Jenn Perez.

"It was really bad, he didn't make it very relevant to students lives. It just wasn't interesting to me personally," added Kate Liszewski.

Many freshmen questioned agreed with Ms. Perez, thinking the information was good, but disliking the presentation.

The next scheduled freshman focus program is Oct. 17th at 6:00pm and Is called "Hands Off! Let's Talk."

Open Mic Night : WNEC Shows its More Artistic Side

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

On Tuesday, September 25th, students gathered in the Bear's Den for the first open-mic/coffeehouse night of the year.

For those of you who do not know what an open-mic night is, here is a brief description. Students, and sometimes faculty, gather in the Bears Den, usually twice per semester, to read original stories, poetry, and also to perform music, tell jokes, and be creative in various other ways.

There are also those who simply come to support their friends, enjoy the creativity, and of course, to engage in consumption of the refreshments.

This year's first open-mic night, sponsored by the Review of Arts and Literature, went off without a hitch, except for the fact that everyone was very lucky to get their hands on the PA system that was needed.

The evening began with Andy Shattuck reading some poetry and the Rock and Roll trio, Brenn, hit the stage shortly thereafter along with some special guest appearances by various singers and musicians who attend WNEC.

Other participants included members of the Review of Arts and Literature and people who simply wanted to share their art, whether it was through song, story, comedy, speech, or poetry.

Everyone watching and performing had quite an enjoyable experience and there was a great deal of talent and creativity among the participants as there always is.

The event was very well organized and the amount of people who came to watch was probably one of the highest ever. The number of participants and the presence of some new faces, both freshman and upperclassmen attending and performing, were very encouraging.

By the way, the Review of Arts and Literature is the annual publication that is distributed along with the yearbooks at the end of the year. Within its pages are some fine quality writing, artwork, and photography.

This year, there is also talk of a supplementary compact disc that will include original songs that are the work of musicians from within the Western New England College Community.

It would be fitting to tell you every detail about Open Mic Nights and that they are a really great time, especially if you have the courage to perform in front of your peers and friends. However too much information cannot be given away because that would ruin some of the surprises.

If you attend, then you know how interesting these events can become, and if you have not yet had the chance, come to one sometime. Open-Mic/Coffeehouses are usually held on Tuesday nights from eight to eleven in the Bear's Den about twice (maybe more this year) per semester. Banners are usually hung in front of the campus center a week or two in advance.

So yeah...come to share your work or to watch and you are assured that you that you will not be disappointed.

The Westerner's Roving Reporter Asks.....

The word college is often synonymous with fun and freedom. We want to know what you think.

What is your favorite thing about being in college?

"Being able to do whatever you want, whenever you want."
-Carolyn Sprague (left)

"Total independence and friendships."
-Jamie Carney (right)

"Nothing, it's too stressful."
-Dan Smith (above)

"Living on campus with the freedom and responsibility that comes with it."
-Melanie Cabral (left)

"Meeting lots of people."
-Tracey Herrington (left)

"Casual conversation with good friends."
-Mike Hayhurst (right)

The Strokes: The Next Velvet Underground?

Eric Hanusek
A&E Editor

With the release of "Is This It", the Strokes have finally arrived in America.

The New York City-based band has been a phenom over in England for the past year or two, and it is almost unconceivable to an American music fan just how big they are over there.

Much of the hype surrounding them is involving their being hailed as the next Velvet Underground.

This is a comparison that is somewhat justified, but not quite yet.

Both bands are from New York City and the Strokes certainly would've fit perfectly in the CBGB hey-days of the Velvets, Television, and the Ramones.

In fact, "Is This It" does at times come across as a modern day version of "The Velvet Underground and Nico", but it is still not nearly on the same level as that landmark album.

Given time, the Strokes may develop into a band such as the Velvet Underground, but not yet.

The vocals of the album are very reminiscent of Stephen Malkmus, formerly of Pavement.

Strokes singer Julian Casablancas has the same laid-back feel to his voice that Malkmus has, and yet it posesses a sense of urgency as well.

In fact, the rawness of the album is what makes it so strong, as it is simply a dirty New York rock album.

This album is also extremely melodic, as the band has paid great detail to the melody of the album and they have created outstanding hooks that will remain in your head for days.

You will truly find yourself singing these songs to yourself for a week after hearing this album.

"Is This It" Marks the Stateside Arrival of the Strokes

The knack for melody is the perfect companion to the album's rawness, as it creates a sound almost like that of Iggy Pop and The Stooges.

Unfortunately, listeners won't be able to hear one of the album's stronger tracks, "New York City Cops", since the band has pulled it from the American release, due to its chorus of "New York City cops, they ain't too smart".

This is a shame, and it is really a case of unnecessary censorship.

This was also responsible for the delay of the album's release date, pushing it to an October 8 release.

Many critics are hailing this album as the most important album since Oasis's "Definitely Maybe", but I find that to be ridiculous.

That album was really just a pop record that had excellent timing, as it was right in that post-grunge time frame.

It is true that the music industry desperately needs a band such as the Strokes to "save rock and roll", but this album is too much of a critic's album to make a commercial splash.

Afterall, its biggest influences (The Velvet Underground, Television, and The Stooges) are all bands that predominantly only critics and musicians care about.

Besides, the current musical landscape would prevent something such as this to even be played on anything but college radio.

Most importantly, what this album does is provide a burst of fresh air to a bland music scene, and it brings back, at least for a minute, the glory days of CBGB's and the raw rock and roll of the 60's and 70's underground scene.

This album may not be "The Velvet Underground and Nico", or Iggy Pop and the Stooges's "Raw Power", but in the day of O-Town, this album will certainly bring a smile to the face of every so-called "indie rock snob" in America.

Lou Reed would indeed be proud.

The Black Crowes Perform At the Eastern States Exposition

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

On Sunday September 30, I witnessed to the greatest concert in the history of Rock and Roll.

Well not really, but I must say that the Black Crowes put on quite a show.

I am not merely saying this because I am their single biggest fan and because Audley Freed and Rich Robinson are two of my guitar heroes.

Folks, even if you hate this band as many people do, you would appreciate their live performance because there is simply more raw energy and talent than a single concert goer can handle.

My friends and I were fortunate to arrive early enough that we were granted seats by the oh-so-accomodating, hippie-loathing security staff.

We proceeded to sit down an hour before the show started and waste time until Mr. Chris Robinson walked out onstage along with the rest of his Georgia boys.

Let me tell you all that the mere sight of this band is a spectacle in itself because they are all about six feet ten inches tall and every single one of them was wearing clothes that Led Zeppelin probably wore about thirty years earlier.

Anyway so enough with the discription, and I shall get right down to the nitty gritty details for the two other Black Crowes fans on this campus.

The boys opened the show with a powerful version of "Remedy" complete with those sweet sounding backup singers that we all love because they remind us of the ones in Lynrd Skynrd's "Sweet Home Alabama".

They then went on to play a mix of songs, both old and new, from each of their six albums (seven if you count the live album with former Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page).

The Black Crowes Rocked the Big-E

Songs from this particular show included "Twice as Hard," "High Head Blues," "Kickin' My Heart Around," "Soul Singin," "Jealous Again," "Lickin'", and quite a few other great ones.

I must say that the highlight of the show, of the fifty-something rock concerts i have attended, and quite possibly of my entire life (well maybe I am going too far) was the encore.

The band left the stage and then came out to play two more songs which were none other than an electrified version of their most popular song "She Talks to Angels," and a surprise cover of Peter Green and Fleetwood Mac's power blues extravaganza "Oh Well".

Amidst all these fine songs were the virtuous guitar, keyboard, and drum jams by each member of the band along with Chris's Robert-Plant-like stage presence, microphone stand spins, and gritty harmonica solos.

I must say that I was not disappointed in them at all, and in fact, I was very pleased because usually arena rock bands do not care about smaller gigs and therefore do not put as much energy into performing at them.

With the Crowes, this was quite the opposite and I think Chris Robinson felt the same way because he simply stated "We feel like Hendrix at the Monterey Pop Festival except there is a lot more fried dough here."

So there you have it, straight from the Crowe's mouth.

"Don't Say A Word"

Laura Hinojosa
Staff Writer

Only one word can describe this recently released psychological thriller: INTENSE!

"Don't Say A Word" opened on Friday September 28 and I predict that it will be one of the most talked about thrillers of the year.

Directed by Gary Fleder and lasting only 90 minutes, this movie will have you intrigued from the beginning to the end.

Michael Douglas plays a psychologist whose daughter has been kidnapped and, unless he can obtain a secret number from one of his mental patients, he will never see his daughter again.

Brittany Murphy, who also played a mentally ill patient in Girl Interrupted, once again delivers a stunning performance as a victim of post-traumatic stress disorder.

She has a mesmerizing look in her eye and an eerie personality that just stands out in the movie.

Sean Bean plays the role of the villain and also gives a good performance.

The directing and music simply add to the intensity of this film.

It's hard to get into details without giving anything away so I'll leave it at A MUST SEE!

This movie is one that is well worth the $8.00.

Brittany Murphy costars as a troubled patient of Michael Douglas

Matt Mancuso
Staff Writer

"Don't Say a Word", starring Michael Douglas and Sean Bean was a wondrous combination of both suspense and drama.

The emotions drawn into the storyline seemed unlike any other movie I have ever encountered.

I felt like I was a part of Brittany Murphy's mind, as well as feeling the emotions she was feeling.

Sean Bean's performance was once again spectacular. Not only does he bring back elements of the evil Alec Trevalyan from "Goldeneye", but he also adds the effect of the covert mastermind.

The relationship that Douglas and Bean shared on the screen was just perfect, with each character baiting and manipulating the other untill the final climax.

I can honestly say this movie had me gripped from beginning to end. Not once did I want to blink, as I was in fear of missing a crucial part of the plot.

I would give high recommendations for this movie and it is defintely worth the price of admission.

So take a trip this weekend to see this movie. You will not regret it.

"Hearts In Atlantis"

"Hearts In Atlantis" Stars Antony Hopkins and a Trio of Three Talented Youngsters

Matt Mancuso
Staff Writer

Hearts in Atlantis was one of the most beautiful dramatic films I have seen since "The Green Mile".

Anthony Hopkins plays his part yet again to a wonderful forte.

This movie will definitely leave tears in your eyes and sadness in your hearts.

As I stared among the crowd that attended this movie, I saw both, young and old, male and female, all with tears in their eyes.

Its amazing to see the bond between the three friends in the movie, played by Anton Yelchin (Bobby), Mika Boorem (Carol) and Will Rothhaar (Sully). It made me wish that I was 11 years old again, just spending the days care-free with my friends.

This movie is more than worth the price of admission, because it leaves you with this sense of emotions that I never have felt from watching a movie.

I was falling in love with all of the characters, and at the end with the music playing, tears rolled down my cheek.

So whether you are interested in drama or not, I truly believe that anyone can really get a wonderful message from this movie, as it will place a small piece of joy into each and every one of your hearts.

Laura Hinojosa
Staff Writer

Based on the book "Hearts in Atlantis" by Stephen King, the writer and director of this movie did a remarkable job that might land them a spot for the Oscar.

Academy Award nominee director Scott Hicks and screenwriter William Goldman, who has won an Oscar in the past, must be given credit where it is due.

The direction and dialogue of this movie are simply breathtaking.

Anthony Hopkins stars along with a great cast in this story about friendship, love, hardships, and loss.

The movie is an 86-minute flashback of character Bobby Garfield, who goes back to his town for closure after the loss of one of his childhood friends.

His memories tell the story of how one man opened his eyes and heart to change his life forever.

This movie is one I would highly recommend if you are in the mood for a little nostalgia or if dramas are among your favorite movie genres.

This movie might even have you leaving the theater reminiscing of your own childhood memories.

Bringing a tissue or two may not be a bad idea.

Should you head to see it at the $8.00 theater?

I think you'll get the same great effect if you wait for it to hit the $4.00 discount theatre.

It will be worth your money either way.

IN STORES NOW

Music

Garbage- "Beautiful Garbage"- New album that apparently features a poppier sound and even (gasp!) a hip-hop song.

Billy Joel- "Essential Billy Joel"- Greatest Hits compilation from the "Piano Man" himself.

Ja Rule- "Pain Is Love"- New album from the rising rap star. Features perhaps the tackiest duet in recent memory, the "I'm Real" duet with Jennifer Lopez.

DVD/Video

The Simpsons- "Season 1"- The entire first season on DVD with commentary from Matt Groening, and lots of other goodies.

Heartbreakers- Comedy starring Sigourney Weaver and Jennifer Love Hewitt as con artists.

The Mummy Returns- Blockbuster sequel to 1999's "The Mummy".

In Theatres Now

Joyride- Thriller about two teens who play a game of cat and mouse with an 18-wheeler

Serendipity- Romantic tale starring John Cusack and Kate Beseknsale

COMING SOON

Music

Ozzy Osbourne- "Down To Earth"- The metal god releases his long-awaited solo album.

Busta Ryhmes- "Total Devastation: The Best of Busta Rhymes"- a greatest hits compilation.

Lit- "Atomic"- New album from late 90's 2-hit wonders.

DVD/Video

The Godfather Collection- The mafia classics finally get released on DVD.

Bridget Jones's Diary- Starring Renee Zellwegger, as a woman who truly finds herself in freedom. Expect a lot of British accents

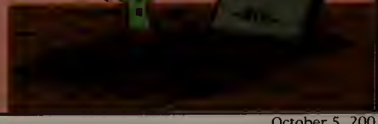
Movies

Who Is Corky Romano?- New comedy starring SNL's Chris Kattan. (10/12/01)

Ozzy's New Solo Album Finally Arrives

The Monster Bash Is Coming!!!!

Friday, October 26



First Response to Big Bumble

Dear Big Bumble,

I find it very ironic that you condescendingly criticize professors whom in your opinion, "can't speak very good" when your own writing is hardly the King's English.

You haughtily deride those who do not speak to your standards, when your own article is liberally laced with grammatical and orthographical errors.

Starting, of course, with using and adjectival phrase to express an adverbial concept. It is not "can't speak very good english", it is "cannot speak English very well."

And, if you are so proud of our mother tongue, you should at least have remembered to capitalize it.

Nevertheless, we all make typos and such, and I am sure that you could reciprocally play copy editor and find flaws in this very paragraph. What is more egregious is how you chauvinistically expect everyone to conform to your ideals.

News Flash! Throughout your life you are going to have to interact with people of different cultures, accents, and languages.

That is reality in our globalized world. Understanding other people's manner of speaking is a skill that we all have to develop to succeed.

Either you can learn how, or you can arrogantly isolate yourself from anyone who does not communicate exactly like you.

Our campus certainly has its share of problems, and I am sure that you can adequately find enough things to bash without picking on and further excluding members of our community.

It must be a lot easier to insult people when you can hide behind a pseudonym.

by:
James Russell

Dirty Underwear Isn't So Bad

This letter is in reference to the article, "Be Prepared to Buy More Underwear" which was featured in the September issue of the Westerner.

It was the first issue of this semester and instead of thanking the school for doing a great job in trying to get Evergreen to open on time, they wrote an article complaining about it.

I understand that is frustrating that everything wasn't finished when we arrived to school this year, but I thought everyone was aware of the fact that we had a bad winter, and therefore the construction was pushed back quite a bit.

Time was a major problem and Evergreen didn't even officially open until the day before we moved in but it did open!

I'm just so sick of all this complaining. The senior class was the first class in the LaRiviere Center and now the first to be in Evergreen. It seems to me that the school pampers to their needs more than anyone else.

Berkshire went many cold winter mornings without any hot water and they were told that they only way to fix it would be to buy a new boiler; the school obviously rejected that idea because it never got fixed.

Most of the article talked about not having any grass, now I love having grass and I understand that it makes it look homelike but I just think the school was trying to deal with bigger issues.

I know that many people are complaining about the laundry situation and I know that it is a pain because many times there are no parking spots in Gateway but what would you rather have, a half finished kitchen?

It's not as if they're not in the process of doing something about it. If the Evergreen laundry room wasn't being worked on, I can see a reason to complain.

And don't you think it's a bit hypocritical to complain about all the noise that the construction workers are making and then complain about the building not being finished, just pick one already.

I really think that the Westerner should be thanking the school for what they have instead of just complaining about it.

by:
Someone Who Appreciates WNEC

P.S. or B.S.? Give us a Break!

Being an upperclassman, it has recently become blatantly obvious to me that Public Safety has changed several of their policies (or the policies that they just recently chose to enforce) since I was a freshman.

It is obviously essential for them to enforce the rules and laws of this campus and to ensure the overall safety of the Western New England College Community. I am not disputing that. It is another thing to be unreasonable and often quite rude to those who are paying their salaries.

Public Safety is essential to this college, and I would admittedly feel unsafe without them. I do believe that most of the college community shares my feelings.

However it needs to be understood that this is college and those who live on this campus need to be treated like college students.

Some of what has gone on this year has undoubtedly gone beyond preserving the well being of the college community, and has crossed into unsubstantiated pestering.

There are many more things a public safety officer should be worrying about than a twenty-two year old Gateway resident standing in his doorway with a can of Bud Lite or a perfectly sober WNEC sophomore simply looking inside one of their police cruisers.

You cannot contend the fact that the rules around campus need to be enforced. What I am contending is the nature in which the rules are being imposed and how much discretion is being used.

I'm not advocating that Public Safety let the residents of this campus run a muck on weekends, but they should play a more reactive role and not jump the gun on what most of the time amounts to small parties.

Keeping control should be their focus rather than trying to be the Gestapo and "busting" everyone they see in sight.

The relationship between students and Public Safety is less than satisfactory, and that isn't good community policing.

A controlled party, a small gathering of students, and those who like to enjoy a cold beer in front of their apartment should be left alone. When things begin to get out of control, then Public Safety should step in.

I'm sure most of the campus agrees with me: Let us have a little fun! It really says something when my freshmen year, this campus was a fun place to be and I actually enjoyed staying here on weekends.

As opposed to now when the entire campus seems like it is on lock down. The parking lots are emptied as students leave to go to other colleges or home.

The result will be increased drug use and a higher rate of binge drinking, which is already becoming apparent on this campus.

Priorities need to be changed. This is a small campus, however, boredom or "Wyatt Earp" mentalities on the part of some of our officers, student patrollers, and even residence life staff should not result in a lash on the majority of students on this campus looking for a fun weekend.

It is a counteractive approach that is having negative consequences. I strongly urge that this college rethinks how they choose to handle certain situations and policies. This is a real student concern that is creating real problems.

by:
Anonymous

Agree to Disagree

At the risk of sounding melodramatic, let me just say that I love Western New England College. I am a senior this year and have enjoyed every moment of the last four years that I have spent here.

So, naturally, when people are in constant ridecule and belittlement of this school, I tend to get a little defensive.

I am well aware that everyone on this campus has their own opinions and I encourage everyone to express them. However, I also feel that there is a right way and a wrong way to do so.

Last year, the former editor, Eric Johnson, wrote an editorial stating that the Westerner office was in dire need of new computer equipment.

Once the Office of Information and Technology got wind of this, Allyn Chase was on our phone asking what they could do to help us.

I believe that the promptness of this response was due in large part to the manner in which the editorial was written.

Believe it or not, this school cares a great deal about all of us and the faculty are here to help us. But when we complain and whine about things like little children, that is exactly how we are going to be treated, and perhaps even ignored.

I'm not suggesting that any of you who contribute to this paper are whining and I know that many of you are angry and want to express your feelings bluntly. But there has to be a better way to do it.

Personally, I don't believe in complaining because I find that it never does any good. Suggesting, however, is a different thing and that is when our voices are truly heard.

This newspaper does not believe in censorship and will probably publish anything anyone submits, within reason that is. So no matter how much you bash something, it will most likely still go into the newspaper. I think that is the hope that some of you are clinging to.

Believe me, I know that we would not have a newspaper were it not for all of you who contribute to it every issue and I hope that you will continue to do so.

That being said, allow me to comment on some of the letters to the editor that are in this issue.

First of all, to the student who "appreciates WNEC", I'm glad, because so do I. But I think that what you need to know is that Jocelyn's articles, for the past three years, have been for the sole purpose of providing comic relief. I have no doubts that she believes every word of what she wrote, but I also know that it was not meant to offend anyone, least of which the place in which she lives.

There is also another anonymous letter addressing public safety. For future reference, anyone who writes anonymous articles and gets no solutions to their problems, that's why.

The people or departments whom you are addressing will gladly talk to you about any problems you may have. But if you hide behind the word "anonymous", there is pretty much nothing they can do. I would also like to tell you that there are things to do on the weekends. Whether or not you enjoy them does not mean they do not exist.

Thank you to everyone who makes this newspaper what it is. I hope that you will continue to do so throughout the rest of the year.

by:
Melanie Gura

Big Bumble...The Battle Begins

Hi, It's me again, and what a good week of stuff it has been here on this campus. I want to start out by saying thank you to all the people that gave me good criticism and feedback, and the one poor soul who did not like the English and grammar that I used.

I am happy that I received an e-mail and an IM, but for everyone else that tells me how good my articles are, how about an email to me or something!

For those who thought that I was too easy this past article, I apologize and it will never happen again.

I am going to be the malicious person that you all remember me as from last year.

First, I want to start out by touching base with my good friend, James (you know who you are).

Bravo to a great article that you wrote. For all of you who did not read his article it is titled, "Big Bumble" in this very issue of the Westerner. I am very happy that he would use my name as his title since he obviously has no brain whatsoever to think of one on his own.

You are showing me with the big words that you used in your rebuttal that you have tremendous balls, almost the size of grapefruits, isn't that true? James, that is mighty impressive of you.

One last thing about my pal James is that he says that I hide behind a "pseudonym." If he was capable of reading, he would have read my article last year when I told the campus who I was. That was a good try though.

I can't believe that a fellow Westerner writer would bash a co-worker. That is all I have to say about you, since you made me waste my limited space that I have.

Secondly I want to talk about how these contractors up in Evergreen Village can't deliver. I am not one to complain, oh that is a lie, I certainly am one to complain. I live in the closest room to the Community Center in the middle. Do you want to know what these great contractors argue about at 8:00 a.m? They argue about who ate the other's Fig Newtons.

This is why it is taking them so long to complete it, because they argue over stupid things like a Fig Newton. There are many other things I want to say about these fantastic contractors. Another reason why this Community Center is not done is because they are starting other things, without finishing the first thing they started.

Is there anyone out there in WNEC land who thinks that you should begin a new project without finishing the first one that you started? I don' t think so.

The last thing that I want to cover about these contractors is the time that they start working in the morning. On Friday the 28th, my roommate was awoken at 6:20 a.m. by the noise of heavy equipment.

He has even told me that the next time it happens, he is going to call Springfield Police, since when he called Public Safety they did not do anything, but I am not here to bash Public Safety like I did last year.

I contacted a different contracting company, and they told me that it is a law in the state of Massachusetts that a contractor cannot start until 7:00 a.m.

I also have to touch on the contractor that I consider to be "Captain America" since he always wears the American Flag do-rag.

I watched him walk around the site for two hours doing absolutely nothing while everyone else was stacking bricks. I feel that is really piss-poor.

I certainly don't feel that the school is pampering the class of 2002 but I see it as the school making more housing for the hoards and hoards of new students that choose to attend this college. I think that is enough on that topic.

This next part of my article is going to be dedicated to those people who emailed me or sent me an IM.

From the two responses that I received, one talks about why it took so long to get the new equipment in the Wellness Room and why the glass on one of the racquet-ball courts that was smashed over the summer has not been fixed yet?

My second response was an e-mail that I received on Monday the first. The email that this person sent me talked about how PS has been cracking down more than they usually do.

A direct quote from his email states, "Gateway, however, seems to have returned to the Retirement community it once was."

That is very true if you ask me, since over Homecoming Weekend I was told that Gateway was dead quiet and Evergreen was a total nightmare. I just want to say that was the funniest quote that I have heard in years.

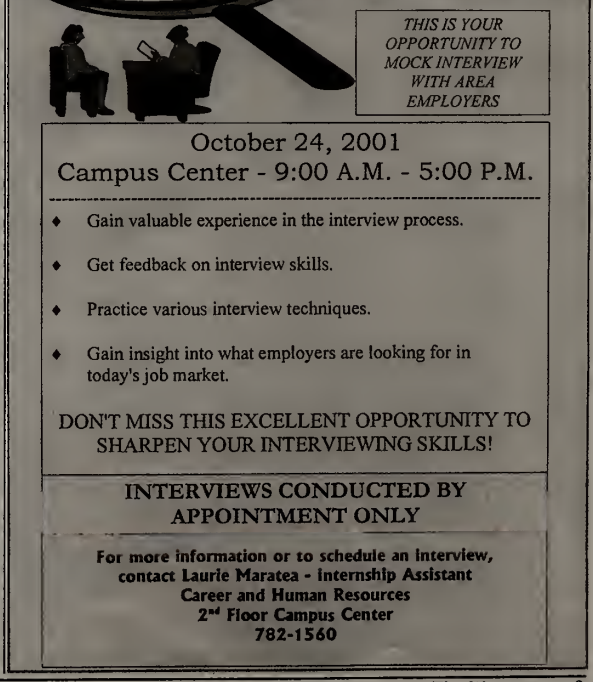
This person believes that PS is jumping the gun when it comes to people having a tiny get together with a couple of their closest friends.

This person feels that PS is going out of their way to bust little get-togethers like this. He feels that PS should step in when there are possibilities of parties losing control, not to make people angry and bust up a good time. I want to thank all those again for sending me responses.

If any people out there want to let me know of a topic that they want me to cover, contact me through the Westerner office or by simply emailing me at bumblescorner@yahoo.com or by IMing me. My screen name is bigbumble304.

Thank you for spending five minutes with me. Watch out for the next article where I bash something else. Bubye!

by:
Big Bumble



Upcoming Events

"Hit The Streets"

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Sat. Oct. 13 & Sun. Oct. 14

Championship Game to be played at Midnight Madness

$5 per player/4 players per team

For more information, contact Mike Raymond x5321

Sponsored by Sport Management Association

Games This Weekend At WNEC Saturday Oct. 6

Cross Country
WNEC invitational
Women: 10:30 am
Men: 11:15 am

Field Hockey
vs. Regis 1 pm

Women's Soccer
vs. Simmons 1pm

Women's Tennis
vs. Pine Manor
1 pm

WNEC Downes Athletic Hall Of Fame Class of 2001

Steven M. Byrne '91 Ice Hockey

Kimberly A. Cola '95 Basketball

Bruce F. Hambro '74 Baseball

Lori A. Mayhew '95 Softball

Richard F. Burns Former Bowling Coach 1966-99

Robert E. Skelton Wrestling Coach

The Jordan Comeback: Good Idea or Bad Idea?

Chris Wystepek
Staff Writer

Earlier last week, former Chicago Bulls superstar Michael Jordan, announced that he will be returning to the NBA for the second time, but not with the Bulls.

Jordan agreed to a two-year deal with the Washington Wizards. Reports have said that his first year salary would be donated to the victims of the terriost attacks that occurred a few weeks ago.

Jordan will play his first game back on October 30th against the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden. His first home game will be against Allen Iverson and the 76ers.

After retiring from basketball in 1998, "His Airness" became a part owner of the Wizards.

However, there are some questions being raised about Jordan's return.

People wonder if it is a good idea for him to return?

How will he help the Wizards?

How will he play against the younger and quicker players?

There are many answers that could be given to answer those questions. In some cases, those answers come in a positive and negative way.

Jordan's return is good in some ways for the sport. This will bring more viewers into the game of basketball.

Yes, today has its Vince Carter and Kobe Bryant, but some people like the classic player like Jordan. Furthermore, it is a noble move on Jordan's part to donate his first year salary to the victims of attacks.

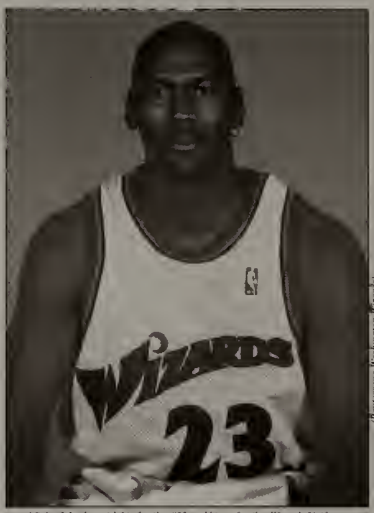
Not many professional players would do something like that. I know personally I waited to see a player to donate their year salary to some charitable organization.

He also had to sell his shares of the Wizards back to the franchise, which is only fair.

"He is doing what he wants to do and he loves the game," commented Senior Steve Lherisson.

That seems to be the only good reason for his return. It seems like he is not coming back for the money, rather he is coming back for the love of the game.

OK, so Jordan's return can be looked upon as a good thing for basketball,but there are some people who believe that this is a poor decision on his part.



(Reuters via Washington Wizards)

Michael Jordan with his familar #23 and his unfamilar Wizards Unifrom

Think about it, Jordan was up for induction in the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2004. Now he wil not up until 2009.

"I believe he should not come

See **JORDAN**, *page 11*

WNEC Sports World

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

There is more good news to tell you about this week regarding Western New England College athletics.

Our teams are doing well and the athletic department just raised a lot of money for the teams at the Third Annual Western New England College Golf Classic.

As of this past Tuesday, we had four teams that were undefeated in Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) action, with one of those teams having an unblemished overall record.

Both the men's and women's soccer teams are having great seasons. The men, who just last season were 4-13-2, have made a dramatic improvement this season.

This past Saturday the Golden Bears picked up their fourth straight win by blanking GNAC powerhouse Rivier College 1-0.

The team improved its record to 7-4 on the season, 3-0 in the GNAC. Freshman midfielder Scott Thornton (Bedford, N.H.), who was named GNAC Men's Soccer Player-of-the-Week, scored the game's only goal with just over 17 minutes left to play in the fiercely contested match.

The women are looking to reclaim the GNAC Title this season after falling to Johnson & Wales in the championship game in overtime last season.

The team is off to a good start despite playing a very tough non-conference schedule and is currently tied for first-place with the Wildcats, with a perfect 5-0 conference record. Junior forward Molly Burke (Westfield, Mass.) is tied for the conference-lead in goals with 11.

The women's tennis team, in only its third season, is off to a spectacular 6-0 start (2-0 GNAC). Even more amazing, this team has not lost a home match since the 1999 season. The team is coming off a 5-4 conference win over Emerson College on Saturday.

Freshman Tricia Troiano (Stewart Manor, N.Y.) has the third best winning percentage in the GNAC (.917) and has a perfect 6-0 record having played fourth, fifth, and sixth singles. Senior Rose Defrancesco

See **WNEC**, *page 11*

RUN FOR JOE

Lance Corporal Giuseppe "Joe" Leto, USMC
died in July, 1999 on a conditioning hike at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Please join us in our 3rd annual Run For Joe to celebrate Joe's life. All proceeds go to the **Giuseppe Leto Scholarship Fund** at Canterbury School where Joe was a graduate of the class of 1997. The scholarship will be awarded to a day-student from the area.

Participate in any way you can - run, jog, or walk, volunteer or send a donation. Registration is $20 a person and runners will receive e Run For Joe t-shirt.

Join us at Canterbury School
Sunday October 21st.
Registration will start at 11:30am and the Run will start at 1:30pm.
Hope to see you there!
Call Canterbury School for details.

Jordan: The Return Of MJ

Continued from page 10

back," said Senior Tim Wuorinen. "A man that is the best player ever, what else does he have to prove or to gain from coming back."

Furthermore, people believe this is a big marketing stunt, that this is just a way for the Wizards to start selling some tickets and get some publicity.

"It is all a publicity stunt," remarked Senior Scott Zimov. "But at a time like this it is a good thing because his face in the game will boost the economy and the NBA."

Look on the bright side, every other NBA team will be able to have a sold out crowd, even the Los Angles Clippers.

Now that Jordan is returning, what about all the apparel and memorabilia that will be sold in stores? Seeing a Wizards number 23 jersey will be hard to believe, but it would not be a surprise to see it sold off the shelves.

Age is another criticism that Jordan is facing. He is 38 and has not really played for a couple of years. No one really knows how he will do against this generation of players.

"His days are done and in the past," stated Junior Abbey Arnhold. "His best memories were back in the day and I do not think he is physically prepared to perform and give us the memories like he use to."

Since his announcement, there are comparisons of Jordan and Mario Lemieux, who came out of retirement toward the end of the 2000-2001 season for the Pittsburgh Penguins. The same criticism was said about Lemieux. People said he should of stayed retired and that the whole thing was all a publicity stunt to sell tickets.

Well, the stadium did sell out for the remainder of the season for the Penguins as well as other NHL franchises.

However, Lemieux played in 43 games and scored 35 goals and had 41 assist. That is almost a goal and an assist in ever game, which is pretty difficult to do in hockey.

But that is hockey, not basketball, and Jordan is not Lemieux. My guess is everyone will have to wait until October 30th to see if Jordan's decision will be a smart one.

WNEC: Sports News

Continued from page 10

(Stafford Springs, Conn.) and sophomore Nicole Tucker (Saugerties, N.Y.) are also among the conference leaders at second and third singles respectively.

The fourth team with an unbeaten conference record is the women's volleyball team. The Golden Bears spiked their way to a dual-match victory over Suffolk College and St. Joseph College (Conn.) on Saturday to improve their conference record to 6-0. Freshman setter Mandee Signor (East Haven, Conn.) was named GNAC Women's Volleyball Rookie-of-the-Week after having 102 assists in three matches last week, including 47 against St. Joseph College.

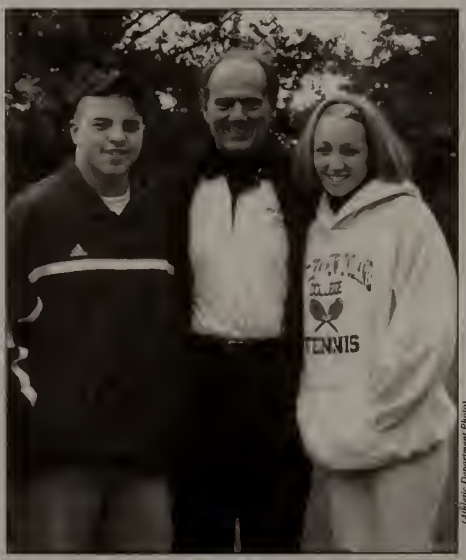
Congratulations also go out to the men's golf team for qualifying for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Championships to be held this weekend in Middlebury, Vt.. The team finished second out of 13 teams last weekend in the ECAC Division III Qualifying Tournament.

The Third Annual WNEC Golf Classic was a huge hit. The athletic department raised over $50,000 for the sports teams through sponsors and entry fees. The student-athletes from all of the teams helped out throughout the day. The 160 golfers that participated was by far the biggest field in the tournament's first three years. The participants included staff, faculty, alumni, and friends of the college.

"It was a very successful day," said Athletic Director Mike Theulen, who did a lot of work to make this event a success. "Our thanks go out to all our players and contributors, and especially all our student-athletes who came out to participate in the day's activities."

Also in attendance was Western New England Colleg e President Dr. Anthony Caprio. The Board of Trustees presented Dr. Caprio's name to the Golden Bear Club, an athletic department fundraising program.

"Over the years, Dr. Caprio has given unprecedented support for our athletics program," commented Theulen.



(Athletic Department Photo)

Dr. Caprio poses with football player Anthony Verdille and women's tennis co-captain Elayna Lazzaro at last Monday's WNEC Golf Classic.

Athletes Of The Week

September 18

Jose Molina
Freshman
Men's Soccer

Adrienne Guay
Freshman
Field Hockey

September 25

Paul Winkler
Junior
Golf

Kristen Ogulewicz
Senior
Women's Soccer

October 2

Scott Thornton
Freshman
Men's Soccer

Jill Luby
Senior
Volleyball

(Athletic Department Photo)

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Fraternities - Sororities
Clubs - Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this quarter with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three fundraising event. No sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

ATTENTION WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE STUDENTS

AIR FORCE ROTC IS HERE

- 2 and 3 Year SCHOLARSHIPS Available
- Scholarship Opportunities for Graduate Students
- Excellent Salary & Benefit Package After Graduation
- Over 200 Different Jobs to Choose From
- Open to All Academic Majors
- Unprecedented Opportunities to Fly!
- You can try Air Force ROTC without obligation to join

AFROTC Detachment 370, UMASS-Amherst, is going to be offering Aerospace Studies 112 at WNEC starting Spring 2001. This class covers basic Air Force doctrine and leadership. See the WNEC on-line catalog for details. A staff member will be on campus every Wednesday and Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm located in the Army/Air Force ROTC building. Stop by and find out more about the program!

Perhaps you didn't realize AFROTC was available to you; well now you know! Don't miss your chance--How to contact us: Call (413)545-2437/2451 or 782-1332 email: afrotc@acad.umass.edu or elane0@wnec.edu www.umass.edu/afrotc

AIR FORCE ROTC - LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE STARTS HERE!

The United Way Needs Your Help!

October Volunteer Opportunities:
Flu Clinic Helpers
Girl Scout Volunteers
Book Repair
Teen Center Help
Food Pantry Help
Receptionist
Fundraising Committee Member
Clothing Sorter
Office Assistant
MCAS Tutors
Coaches

Contact Kristen Beam at the United Way
737-2691
or
Adina Elfant, Director of Learning Beyond the Classroom
located on the 2nd floor of the Campus Center
782-1687

1 HOUR FILM DEVELOPING

FEATURING FRAMES • ENLARGEMENTS • INSTANT PASS

"Old Fashioned Quality without The Wait"

IN A FLASH
One Hour Photo Processing

Breckwood Shoppes
477 Breckwood Blvd.
(Across from Western New England College
Corner of Breckwood & Wilbraham Road)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-7 pm, Sat. 10am-5 pm

Kodak

FREE 2nd Set of Prints

with any roll processed
Good on all C-41 process, 35mm, 110 & 126 rolls.

Blue Moon Coffee Roasters

No need to travel to Northampton gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roaster is open at 5 Sumner Ave near White St Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, eas cappuccinos, and backed good

Now open till 10 Mon-S

Come sit and study or bring your [illegible] and visit ov[illegible]

Study Abroad

CONSIDER TAKING A SEMESTER AT A COLLEGE IN

ANYWHERE YOU CHOOSE.

THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER
(OR TACO, CRUMPET, SUSHI).

- *COSTS COMPARABLE TO WNEC*
- *FINANCIAL AID CARRIES OVER*
- *NO TIME LOST TOWARD GRADUATION*
- *SETS YOUR RESUME APART*
- *PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO OTHER CULTURES AND YOURSELF*

CONTACT: PROF. B. PORTER
H212J, 782-1760, bporter@wnec.edu

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 49/Issue 4 • March 29, 2002

McCully and Teker Ready to Lead Student Senate

Joel Dusoe
Op/Ed Editor

Running in an uncontested election, junior Christopher McCully won the Student Senate Presidency on Tuesday March 26th.

McCully will replace the outgoing president, junior Joseph Petrillo who decided not to run for reelection.

Petrillo took the presidency in late December after the President and Vice President resigned for personal reasons.

McCully, who will offically take office on April 2, 2002, has been serving as Vice President of Student Senate since December.

McCully has held positions on Student Senate for the past three years and looks forward to going into his senior year as President of the Student body.

Newly elected Student Senate President and Vice-President Chris McCully and Amanda Teker planning for a successful year

"I want Student Senate to become more aware and more involved on what is going on on campus. A lot of people don't know what's happening and don't think they can change things. But the fact is with Student Senate, we can make a difference" said President-Elect McCully.

When asked what his visons and goals are for Student Senate McCully stated that he wanted to continue much of the work that the outgoing Senate has done as well as implement new ideas.

"We want to look into remodeling the campus center to include some-

See McCully, page 2

Occaneechi Tribe Honors Spring Break Team Members

Chris Wystepek
Staff Writer

During Spring Break, nine students and one advisor took a trip down to historical Hillsborough, North Carolina to participate in one of three Alternative Spring Break (ASB) Programs for the Learning Beyond the Classroom Department of Western New England College.

The trip dealt with Native American issues from the past to present of the Occaneechi Tribe of the Saponi Nation.

During the time in Hillsborough, the group learned about the Occaneechi history, dances, and food while understanding issues dealt with by the tribe such as race, poverty, stereotyping and land ownership.

Upon arrival to the village, the tribal leader John "Blackfeather" Jeffries and his wife Lynette gave the group a warm southern welcome.

Throughout the first couple of days, the group learned a lot about John and his determination to reconstruct the village of his people.

They learned how the Occaneechi Tribe was formed and the struggle they went through during the Revolutionary War era.

John took the group to the Occaneechi State Park in Virginia to show them a replica hut and his regalia that he wore during Pow-Wow's.

Other items shown were tools and hides that the Occaneechi used over the years.

By first learning the history and information of the Occaneechi people, it was time to help construct the village. There were two main projects that were worked on. The first was to construct a fence around their central cooking pit.

The skeleton of the fence was completed in one day and in the fall there will be corn stalks placed around the fence. The purpose of the fence was to prevent the north winds from extinguishing the cooking fire. The next project was to build a work hut.

The next project was to build a work hut. Many cedar trees were cut down and shaped in order to build this hut and all the branches were tied by leather strips to hold it in place. This hut was completed in two days.

Other tasks done by te group were to paint muc over the sweat hut and

Please see Tribe, page 4

Alternative Spring Breakers with the Occaneechi Tribe members in Hillsborough, North Carolina

NEWS
Construction on the Student Leadership Garden is underway.
page 3

EDITORIALS
Students are still pushing for sweat shop free clothing.
page 9

A&E
Read a review of the Academy Award winner for Best Picture.
page 6

SPORTS
WNEC student serves on NCAA student-athlete committee.
page 10

McCully and Teker Take the Student Senate Presidency

From McCully, page 1

thing like a food court that will be open 24/7. Essentially we want to make the Campus Center more student orientated rather thAn just a bunch of office spaces" he said.

McCully also said that he and the incoming senate will be looking into creating "Senate Chambers" which will allow Senate to be more open to the students.

"We'll also be looking into changing the budget process to make it easier for clubs and organizations to receive funding as well as changing the conference policies so more students may be able to attend" McCully said.

President-elect McCully said that he will have a good working realtionship with the college adminstration. "If there is something that the students want or something is in high demand.

It is my job to approach the adminstration and say look here is what the students want and its something we need to work on to get it done for the students. We pay the money to go to this school, so it should be about the students" he said.

When asked about the parking and ticketing situation McCully said that there is certainly room for improvment. "It is still a problem, the situation during the Springfield Spirit game where the student was forced to drive a mile around campus rather then six feet down to where he needed to go to park. It's things like this that need to be improved upon."

He said that what it comes down to is what the realtionship is between Public Safety, and the students and right now it's not where it needs to be.

In trying to establish a better realtionship with Public Safety, McCully said he will continue to work closely with them as well as have a committee comprised of senators that will regularly meet with the department.

Historically, the relationship between the Campus Activites Board and Student Senate has been less than strong. However the President-elect sees a brighter future for both groups.

"Right now the realtionship bewtween CAB and Senate is pretty good and I don't see much that needs to be changed" he said. He emphasised that because CAB is a committee of Student Senate t, more senators will probably be attending CAB meetings next year.

There has been some feeling among students that this year that they were left in the dark in choosing who will play at the spring concert.

McCully said that while he understands that there is a need to allow the concert chairman and committee to do its job effectively, he agreed that the process needs to be more open so any student who want, can be involved.

Student apathy is another issue that McCully would like to address. "I want people to be involved...the more intiaitive you take and the more involved you are, the more we can make a difference. And I want to get that message out that we can really make a difference." He said that there is no reason not to be involved, you just have to want to do it.

When asked about student media, McCully said he strongly believes in an uncensored and unbiased media such as The Westerner and WNEK FM.

"As far as funding student media that is something that needs to be worked out through the process, but I believe in freedom of speech and feel it is very important to have student media on campus" he said.

McCully said that the funding of clubs and organizations is one of his main concerns. He stressed that Senate only has so much money that they can allocate to over 50 clubs and organiztons.

He said that he does not support raising the student activites fee so they will have to be creative in how clubs and organizations are sufficiently and fairly funded.

Junior Amanda Teker will serve as McCully's Vice President. "I think we will work well, we see eye to eye on just about every issue. We have the same goals and the same vision on what we want to do in Senate" said McCully about the Vice President elect.

While McCully did not have any insight as to who will make up the rest of his executive board, he did say that whoever he appoints will be the "best man for the job."

Teker said that she wants to see a strong Student Senate organization. "We're going to bring senate together as a whole first before we start to work on the problems of the student body."

She believes that McCully and her will make a great team. "Chris will do a good job, he has alot of great ideas and is very excited about the position" she said.

McCully stated that he is very honored to be able to serve as Student Senate president. "I'm a laid back kind of guy, I know what is going to be expected of me and I will do the best I can."

In other Senate elections all but one position ran uncontested. In the Business Representitive race, Christina Amarante, Mellissa Madden, and Jill Saucier beat out Udoka Agbo for a seat. There were also constitutional amendments that needed to be approved by the student body for both the Student Association (Student Senate) and Residence Hall Assocation constitutions.

The amendments for the Student Assocation constitution were accepted. However the RHA amendments failed to get the student body approval.

Senator Ryan Hogan, a member of Senate's Legislative Committee, said the amendments to the Senate constitution were important because it cleared up confusion in regards to succession of the Presidency and also clarified the purposes of some committees and eliminated others.

Brad Osborn, the Election Committee Chairman, said that there were no highly contested races and there was a very low voter turnout. About 111 students or about 5% of the student population took part in Senate elections.

Thursday, March 28th was dedicated as Admissions Associate Appreciation Day!

Admissions Associates are students who work in the Admissions Office and are an important link to prospective students. Admission Associates perform campus tours, despite the rain or snow and also handle office work. They are truly an essential part of Admissions and their hard work is greatly appreciated. Please join the Admissions Office in thanking the Admissions Associates for their dedication and commitment to the College!

Mike Gray, Jennifer Murray, Kevin Carlson, Jessica Newman, Patrick O'Neill, William Leuck, Jennifer Percival, Jessica Fasulo, Melissa Harris, David Vigliano Dawn Jagielski Lauren Wnek

Student Leadership Garden Underway

Ryan DaJong
Staff Writer

Hopefully you have all noticed another new construction project that has begun on campus. The creation of the Student Leadership Garden has commenced.

This gardens' purpose is to express the value that student leaders have to Western New England College, in both an academic aspect and co-curricular aspect.

It also will be a place on campus where students can go to relax and reflect, something that is hard to find on this growing campus. WNEC believes that the student leaders on campus do play an important role in making this college OUR college, and therefore are always looking for ways to encourage and show support for student leadership.

Also, as WNEC is expanding and gaining so many new facilities on campus, Student Senate, in collaboration with the college, looks for ways to set areas of tradition.

What is going to be in this garden you ask? A variety of plants and trees, along with a water element such as a brook with a pond, benches, walkways, and plaques recognizing student leaders.

The garden is going to be a New England theme with stone walls and plants from this area. A stone amphitheatre will be put in so classes, meetings, or events can be held there.

Plaques will also be put in the garden with a leadership theme and any ideas from students would be appreciated. This garden will also be accessible by ADA standards.

Seed money (no pun intended) for this project will come from the Student Senate trust fund. On campus, this fund has supported three gifts so far. One being the garden, the second being the chimes we hear ringing in the hour, and the other is the renovation of the Bears Den.

Before all the clubs on campus blame plants for a lack of a budget, the money in this fund is separate from the money from which they allocate budgets.

Overall, the student leadership garden is going to cost approximately $50,000-$60,000. This includes cost of architect, construction crews, irrigation, pumps, benches, plaques, lighting, walkways, and other safety measures.

Two plans were originally presented and one was chosen by Senate. It is going to encompass a fairly large area of campus, ranging the entire length of Windham road.

This garden has been talked about for many years but no one ever acted on it until last years Student Senate. The current Student Senate has finalized the plans and has initiated the project.

One way this project is sped up is by the gifts of money from the senior classes of 2001 and 2002 which greatly supported this effort.

Habitat Spring Break in Springfield

Alan King
Contributing Writer

Through the Alternative Spring Break Program, seven students from Western New England College along with seventeen students from Elms and Springfield College were able to join forces to work with Habitat for Humanity over spring break.

Habitat for Humanity, as expressed in its mission statement, is an organization designed to "eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action."

Under Habitat's supervision, the crew from Western New England College - Erin Wilson, Terri Routhier, Van Vu, Sarah Szczebak, Jamie Clements, Kelly McNally, and Alan King along with their faculty advisor, Adina Elfant - worked at 11 Monmouth Street in Springfield, renovating a house whose construction in 1986 was never completed due to a lack of funds.

During the week the students learned how to build walls, install windows, insulate, and sheetrock. However, as the students worked with the future homeowner, students developed more than just building skills. Students became aware of the critical role Habitat for Humanity plays in fulfilling dreams for program recipients.

Habitat has built more than 100,000 houses around the world, providing more than 500,000 people in more than 2,000 communities with safe, decent, affordable shelter. The organization continues to open new chapters across the nation and world.

Students also learned that Habitat for Humanity is not only about building houses; it is about building community, which was demonstrated through the support of the Western New England College community.

The students wish to thank the faculty, staff and alumni, who provided many of the meals during the week and who participated throughout the week in the build.

For more information about participating in Habitat for Humanity or the Alternative Spring Break Program, contact Adina Elfant, Director of Learning Beyond the Classroom at Ext. 1686.

9/11 Affected Band

Chris Wystepek
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, April 16, the Campus Activities Board is providing the campus community the opportunity to listen to rock band Karmablind perform here at WNEC in front of the Gazebo between 12:30 to 2 with a rain location to be in the mall area of the Campus Center.

Karmablind is a band from southern New York. Their songs are considered "catchy and radio ready music filled with emotion." However, what makes their band different from most bands that perform here at WNEC is how the terrorist attacks of September 11th affected the life of the band and their lead singer Mark Sly.

Sly has always been interested in music. He was a student at Berklee College of Music in Boston and performed in many shows while holding down his full-time job with a bank in Manhattan,which happened to be located in the Twin Towers.

That morning, Sly was on the 48th floor in one of the towers when the planes crashed into them. It is true that he was clear out of the way, but he would not have been if the planes crashed two weeks earlier.

His bank was originally on the 81st floor of the tower two weeks before the attacks. In fact, if Sly happened to be at his desk during that time, the wing of the plane would have hit him. Sly's life was never the same after that morning.

In an interview with a New York paper, Sly commented on the incident saying, "It really affected me, and I thought I could either let it get the best of me or I could make the best of it. I was close to not being lucky, so I took the good out of the bad and I'm putting all my energy into doing music full-time."

Now that Sly is focusing on his music, this has affected his band. Many of the members have also focused on music full-time now. The band is going on tour promoting their new album and one of the stops will be here at WNEC.

Look for them to put on a great show on April 16th and the Campus Activities Board encourages all students, faculty and staff to take an hour and come listen to them perform.

If you would like to know more about the band, you can visit their website at www.karmablind.com.

THE WESTERNER

Melanie Gura
Editor

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

Steve Tassett
Co-Editor

Eric Hanson
A&E Editor

Joel Dusse
Co-A.E. Editor

Ryan DeJong
Laura Hinojosa
Darryl Konicki
James Russell
Tom Skypek
Chris Wystepek
Staff Writers

Cliff Vachon
Roving Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Jen Casceillo
Alan King
Martina Liwulanga
Contributing Writers

Photos This Issue
Joel Dusse
Chris Wystepek
Athletic Department

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Students Trail the Appalachian

Chris Wystepek
Staff Writer

Usually when students think about what to do for Spring Break, ideas of going to Cancun or Florida are the first things that pop in their minds. But for 11 individuals, that was not their idea.

Three groups of students decided to use their break and make a difference in the world. One particular group took the time and drove down to the Fontana Dam in Robmsville, North Carolina to deal with environmental issues with the Appalachian Trail.

While attending this Alternative Spring Break Program, the group did a lot of work and at the same time got to see some great sites.

One of the projects the group completed during the week was to do some privy engineering work at the Cable Gap Shelter.

By the end of the week, the group was able to move a 300 to 400 pound roof from an old privy onto a new privy.This was not the only thing done by the group.

Their major project was to do some trail work at Yellow Gap. Some members of the group believed this to be the most challenging section as well as the one area that need the most work.

The main purpose was to restore the trail to the height it was before it was eroded. While using tools such as pulaski's, fine rakes, shovels, and loppers, they were able to dig the new trail into the mountain.

Some of the obstacles faced in digging the trail were packed roots and a great number of rocks. However, in the end they were able to remove and reposition the rocks.

They ended up constructing a retaining wall and used the rest as stepping-stones, which made the trail look more attractive.

Along the way to and from North Carolina, the group visited some of the attractions. They visited Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, and Gettysburg, where one of the greatest battles in America's history was fought.

Outside learning about the environmental issues faced, they were able to relearn some of their past. The students who attended the trip found it to be very rewarding.

"It was a great opportunity to help out the general public," commented Senior Chris Kotowicz. "This experience was one to remember.

The group was lead by team leaders Kotowicz and Junior Chandra Bellamy and advised by Dr. David Russell, Associated Professor of Computer Information Systems.

Traveling Matt Returns Triumphantly

Dan Hocker
Assistant Editor

Traveling Matt made a solid return to WNEC on Friday, March 22 to mark their fifth performance at WNEC.

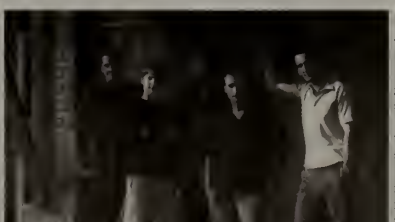
In case anyone hasn't heard, Traveling Matt is a highly talented rock/funk/folk band that hales from Amherst, but has made a recent move to the Boston music scene.

The performance they gave on Friday night could quite possibly be the most professional performance the band has ever given here at WNEC.

They began playing on schedule at 8pm in Sleith 100, and proceeded to pull out all the stops, while still having a comical stage presence comparable to Spinal Tap on a smaller scale.

Because of the short notice given about the concert, only a small number of people attended. However, it was a decent sized crowd for a Friday night when people are usually out doing things other than listening to music.

The band explained briefly to me after the show that since they have moved to Boston and played venues such as the House of Blues, and the Ironhorse in Northampton, they have learned how to put on an entertaining show while performing.



This adds a great deal to their image. One member also said that they were incredibly excited that night because their first gig in New York City was scheduled for the next day.

For any band, New York is a big step, especially when they are from out of state and their first gig is at a club (The Lion's Den) that is well known and famous for artists making breakthroughs on its premises.

Traveling Matt expects to have a new album out by late Spring/early Summer, and is very excited about how many fans they have gathered, and continue to gather.

They are a highly professional and talented live band and everyone who hears their infectious grooves seem to fall victim to their sound.

Wouldn't it be ironic if two years or so from now, you were to see them making an appearance on a late-night talk show, or playing a sold out venue such as Harbor Lights in Boston, or Irving Plaza in New York City?

Don't be surprised, because they work so hard and their music is so good, that this could easily happen.

Occaneechi Tribe

From Occaneechi, page 1

pitch in to help clean the tribal office. Even though the group felt they could have dome more, it meant a lot to John.

By constructing these two areas of the billage, we saved him and Joe Lopez, a friend of John's, three to four weeks of work.

One of the touching and best moments of the week was the gifts that were given to the group by John and his wife. John had many of these items for years, which he made himself.

At first, the group felt bad that he was giving them all of these items that were his, but John said, "The riches people are the ones who have nothing." Next, John shot off ten arrows outside the village fence and each one was given to the group. He presented them with necklaces, shirts and dream catchers.

Lynette dresses Little Bear in ritual attire.

However, the one item that was treasured from that week was the feathers given by John. Presenting a feather was the highest honor that can be given to anyone by a Native American.

On the last day, the group enjoyed stories with some of the Occaneechi people in front of a fire. They got to see how the culture gets passed down from generation to generation.

John's grandson, 4 year-old Euriah "Little Bear," kept the group entertained by banging on his drum and doing a grass dance. Finally, they enjoyed some of the best southern food around.

When the group left to head back to Springfield, they discovered that John went down to the village that very morning and sat down around the fire for a couple of hours, which is the same fire we all sat around during the week, waiting and hoping that he would see us walk down and continue helping with the village.

"John is a truly inspirational person," said Kristin Messier. "He is a genuine individual with an amazing personality. His sense of humor, devotion to his culture, and incredible wealth of knowledge left me captivated by his presence and begging to learn more. He is an admirable man deserving of the utmost respect."

Overall, the trip was an exciting time. Many of the group members found John to be motivational and amazing. He taught the group things that they cannot read in history textbooks.

Aallowing themto help out with the village made this Spring Break the best decision of their lives.

"While I've been on two ASB trips, they were both remarkably different," commentedDavid Norris. "Last year, I learned trade skills in carpentry.

This year, I learned allabout the Occaneechi tribe. In both years, however, I learned a lot about myself and at the same time I had a great time."

It is recommended by the group that if you have an interest in participating in the Spring Break Program, to become a part of something that will give you the experience of a lifetime.

The Westerner's Roving Reporter Asks.....

This time of year is usually filled with campaigning and mud-slinging. This year, however, was a little different.

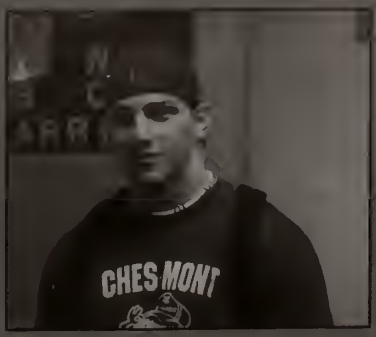
Did you vote in this year's Student Senate Elections?

"I had no clue there were elections today."
Alan King (left)

"I didn't know about it until it was too late."
Kelly McNally (above)

"I did not have time to go vote today."
Sue Redmile (right)

"Elections were [illegible]."
Stephen Perkins (below)



"I just found out about the elections so I didn't vote today."
Joanna Monarch (left)

"A Beautiful Mind": Something To Crowe About

Martina Liwulanga
Contributing Writer

With the success of last summer's action packed, sword and sandals epic, "Gladiator", you would think Russell Crowe was just another action hero. In "A Beautiful Mind" Crowe shows that he has a real gift for getting inside the mind and soul of everyone he plays.

In the film, Crowe plays John Forbes Nash, Jr., a gifted math genius who goes on to win the Noble Prize for his game theory. When we first met him, he is a shy and somewhat arrogant genius among some the most elite math students at one of the most elite colleges in the country, Princeton.

He says whatever comes to mind, even joking that there should be a mathematical explanation for how bad a fellow students tie is. Nash sees patterns in everything. He relates everything to mathematics; even a flock of pigeons is not safe from Nash's ever-working mind.

He states that he has to come up with an original idea and spends most of his time in the library doing so.

As the movie goes along other important people in Nash's life are shown. One of them being his roommate, Charles, who just moves in one day, proclaiming to be his roommate.

Charles, as we come to find out is the total opposite of Nash, he drinks and smokes and is basically a carefree spirit. He becomes one of the only friends Nash seems to have. The other important person is Alicia, whom he meets while teaching some years later.

She is brilliant, beautiful and bold. Jennifer Connolly plays her to perfection. Alicia knows what she wants; she wants the attractive, if not downright shy, Nash. She asks him to dinner and he accepts.

From there the love story takes shape and we see two people falling in love. In one scene Nash points out the pattern of an umbrella in the sky and traces it with her finger. It becomes apparent that Nash sees everything in patterns.

Russell Crowe Shines in The Best Picture-Winning "A Beautiful Mind"

He can make them appear out of anything. After he and Alicia are married, he begins to believe that the Russians are sending codes through the New York Times. He is pulled into the dark world of Cold War intrigue and post-World War II paranoia.

He begins to wildly look for patterns where they don't exist. He sees them everywhere, in every magazine, in every newspaper. Director Ron Howard does a wonderful job in showing the patterns of numbers that seem to jump out at Nash at every point in the movie. It doesn't seem to add up to anything.

Nash falls further and further into his own world. He finally has to go to the hospital to receive shock treatment. During this part of the movie, it became increasing difficult for me to look at the screen.

Seeing Russell Crowe go through the painful tests was enough to make me want to cry. He brought such a sensitivity and humanity to Nash. His rugged good looks went away and he was just a shell of the man he was in the beginning of the movie. He was succumbing to his illness, schizophrenia. All of the people trailing him are not there; even his one time college roommate is a figment of Nash's imagination.

The movie does a wonderful job in telling of Nash's illness. We see what it was like for him to see things and people that do not really exist. The love of his wife, Alicia pulls him through. She suffers as much as he does throughout the whole ordeal.

We see him suffer through his illness and his attempts to try to reason it out. He discovers that his mind is betraying him. When he is shown in the throws of his illness, it is not the standard TV movie depiction of mental illness.

Ron Howard brings us into the mind of a man who has spent his whole life relying on his mind and relying on the brilliance of his mind, only to see it come crashing down.

We see that the government agent (Ed Harris) and the roommate (Paul Bettany) are not really there, that the whole thing was only in his mind. It is an exploration into mental illness that has rarely been seen.

It is in Crowe's performance that we grow to like Nash. He brings a sense of humanity and even humor to someone who could just be another intellectual. Crowe has an uncanny ability to become someone else.

He can totally transform himself from handsome, tough Australian into a somewhat nerdy genius. As he did in 1999s, "The Insider", Crowe transforms himself before our eyes. His body language is slightly slumped over and his expressions are rather shy.

He adopts little ticks and a slight stutter when he talks. He also has to age over a period of 47 years. It is truly amazing to watch him up on the screen.

He processes something that few actors in Hollywood do these days, honesty and integrity. He brings these traits to every role he plays.

In this movie he proves just how versatile an actor he is. "A Beautiful Mind" is a brilliant mystery of a movie that is not to be missed.

Hot Rod Circuit Performs in Worcester

Eric Hanusak
A&E Editor

On March 5, Hot Rod Circuit, Further Seems Forever, Brand New, and Overlook played the Upstairs Palladium in Worcester. The show was in support of Hot Rod Circuit's new release "Sorry About Tomorrow".

Having the highest opening slot was Florida's Further Seems Forever. This is one of the first tours they have done with their newest singer, after replacing Chris Charruba, also known as Dashboard Confessional. With the new singer, the band now has a less whiny and poppy sound, but he did a great job of keeping the older songs' original flavor.

Of course the highlight of the show proved to be Hot Rod Circuit's set. With a good mix of older fan favorites and some of the new tracks, the band delivered a crowd pleasing set.

The one thing that stands out in HRC's performances is the stage presence of guitarist CaseyPrestwood. He is all over the stage and is continuously flying all over the stage, as well as providing amusing between song banter.

One of the most surprising things about their performance was the way that the audience reacted so positively to the new songs, even singing along perfectly to the new songs that were featured on the second Vagrant Records compilation.

This is a band whose popularity is continuing to grow and they can be caught opening for the Get Up Kids this spring, and then probably on the Vagrant America tour this summer.

20 Years Later...
The Adventure Comes Back to Life

Laura Hinojosa
Staff Writer

On Friday March 22, 2002, "E.T." was brought back to theaters for its 20th Anniversary. If you are a person who has not seen this movie since you were ten years old, I would definitely recommend you take advantage and go see it on the big screen.

Not only is it a treat to see "E.T." in a theater, but also having now watched it again as an adult, I felt that I had a greater appreciation for the movie and also grasped many concepts I missed when I saw it 10 years ago.

"E.T." now includes never before seen footage that adds a little something extra to the movie. Along with a re-mastered soundtrack and enhanced visual effects, some other changes were also made.

Several scenes were edited. For example, in the original "E.T." in a scene where Elliot's mother is talking to her son as they are about to leave to go trick or treating she makes the statement that he cannot go out looking like a terrorist.

In the re-mastered version, the word terrorist is changed to hippie.

"E.T." Returns To the Big Screen

Also, in the original, the government agents are shown holding guns as they are walking down the streets to take E.T. away.

Through computer imaging, the new version shows them holding walkie-talkies and light sticks. Watching the opening credits I also learned something I did not know before.

Though Steven Spielberg directed "E.T.", a woman wrote the actual screenplay for the movie. Melissa Mathison has done plenty of work with Francis Ford Copula and he was the one who asked her to write up the screenplay for this movie.

For more interesting "E.T." facts check out the official website at www.et20.com. I would encourage anyone to go check out "E.T." once again and relive the adventure.

New Releases

Movies

Death to Smootchie- Quirky black comedystarring Robin Williams and Edward Norton. The question is, can Robin Williams avoid being annoying anymore?

Panic Room- This is a new thriller from David Fincher, the director of "Fight Club", starring Jodie Foster. Looks like it has insane camera work and suspense.

Simpson Trivia: The Return!

1) W[illegible] and of th[illegible] at H[illegible] called
A. Bub[illegible]
B. Radiat[illegible] K[illegible]
C. Light Box

2) Wh[illegible] Milhouse [illegible]
A. [illegible]ute
B. Trumpe[illegible]
C. [illegible]

3) W[illegible]

4) [illegible]

5) [illegible]

6) [illegible]

Seth Horan Performs in the Campus Center

James Russell
Staff Writer

Bass virtuoso Seth Horan returned to WNEC for a second performance on Thursday, rocking the Campus Center with his unique brand of performance - a solo singer/songwriter accompanied only by an electric bass.

Passers-by were drawn in by his innovative sound and stayed for a great show. Seth shatters the myth about basses and bass players; that they are just rhythm musicians or backup instruments, bringing the instrument front and center to deliver a sonic attack laden with humor and pathos.

The way he can extract so much sound from his bass evokes Flea or Victor Wooten, but his shows have a coffeehouse atmosphere and a real connection with the audience.

Seth has built a reputation through touring and word of mouth, playing clubs and cafes in LA and up and down the East Coast.

He has also been a member of the pop rock group Vertical Horizon and the Rap-metal band Darwin's Waiting Room, showing his skills in many different styles of music.

Seth Horan Provided WNEC With Some Mid-day

His name has also spread across the Internet, with his songs being frequently downloaded on Napster and ranked high on independent artists' websites such as Farmclub.com and Garageband.com.

His single 'Tarot' was rated "Best College Rock Song of 2001" in the Just Plain Folks music awards.

Seth draws audiences in with his funky bass lines and keeps them in with intelligent songs about love, loss, and piercing political commentary, all sung with heartfelt emotion. He plays music for the love of it, and supports fellow independent artists, playing with local musicians and friends at his gigs and hanging out with everyone at the show.

Seth has just released his latest album "Notwithstanding", following up on his first solo album "This is the Session" and an EP of works in progress. Some of the breakout tracks are "Something Pretty," an account everyone can relate to abut being atracted to people merely for their appearance, and "Beautiful", an angsty tale about trying to remain loyal to a faraway lover, only to realize they are cheating at home.

The most impactful song is "Keep to Myself" a plea for religious tolerance and freedom of thought.

No Seth perfomance is complete without 'Tarot', which he describes as "my hit single as far as independent artists go," a tale of trying to hide an infatuation that is revealed through a pack of Tarot cards.

All three disks are well worth buying on CDBaby.com, but there is nothing like a live show. Try to catch Seth next time he plays at the Fire & Water Cafe in Northampton. Check out www.sethhoran.com for future tour dates, and for sound samples of just how powerful a bass can be.

Deuce Says: Give the Keg a Break!

College administrators beware! Something lerks on this campus and on campuses throughout America.

It stands about wasit high and takes on a cylinder shape. It is cold to the touch and its shiny silver color hypnotizes students to draw them to it.

It's not the outside but rather it's what's in the inside that college students of all shapes and sizes seek.

Dare I say it? Yes, I'm talking about, thats right, a KEG of BEER!!!

Now I know, the keg is a college officals worst nightmare. But my question to them is why? Why do you discriminate against the keg?

Why do you seek it out to take it away from us? Why is it such a big deal? It's only beer for crying out loud, 6.88 cases to be exact!

That's about 165 12oz cold ones. And do you know something, for me to purchase 7 cases of beer would be a hec of alot more expensive then buying one keg.

So really it makes more economical sense for the typical college student to buy a keg then anything else.

But this college has something against the keg, lately it is being treated as if it was the root of all evil on campus.

Ok I admit, alcohol often is the cause of many problems such as fights, etc.

But a keg of beer does not automatically mean irresponsibility. College students can be just as irresposbible with a 12 pack.

I'm here to say, folks we are in college! Remember when you were there, remember when the drinking age was 18?

Beer and the keg, is just as much apart of a college students life as books and exams.

And rightfully so, it was apart of yours (the college offical), our parents, and many others before us.

It is only a big deal because colleges make it so. The reaction of people when they hear of a keg is astonishing, I mean come on it is just beer!

If college officals weren't so uptight about them, I don't think college students would be excited to learn that one exsist somewhere on campus.

In country's where alcohol is

available to just about anyone and there is a young drinking age or none at all, there seems to be less problems with alcohol.

Not this country and certainly not this college. You have to be 21 (what a stupid number) and you can't have a keg unless you register it.

I'm sorry but registering a keg? Oh and here is the kicker, when you register a keg the focus of the party can't be alcohol.

Hahaha, how many college parties have you been to where the focus isn't alcohol. Lets not kid ourselves please.

The only purpose behind that is so that the college can monitor you, God forbid you have someone under age at a keg party.

I don't advocate irresponsibility, but I do advocate having fun! And no matter what anyone says, alcohol can be fun, alot of fun.

And the keg can provide for all sorts of entertainment, everyone's favorite usually being the keg stand.

My point is this, college students have been getting kegs for decades. Why all of a sudden is it a big deal.

Why all of a sudden is it, "oh my God you have a keg...Probation for you!"

Honestly we are just trying to be economical when we buy them....

I know many of you, especially those in the college adminstration just think I'm bitter. But I am really not.

I really feel this way and I think that the approach college's across the country are taking is the wrong approach.

There is no need to resort to becoming a "dry" campus, to beef up enforcement, to bust up parties, and essentially take this part of a college student's life away from us.

We learn alot about our social lives from these years. And really beyond college I don't think to many of us will still be playing beer pong.

So give us our college years to have this sort of fun! Taking a different approach I believe would be more successful.

That approach should be: so long things don' lose control, then leave our kegs and our parties alone!

Please send comments, questions, or suggestions for future columns to JDuce18@hotmail.com

by:
Joei Dusoe

The INS: A Soft Spot in America

Tom Ridge and the rest of the U.S. have enough homeland security issues to deal with already.

Despite that fact, the Immigration and Nationalization Service (INS), a definite void in the bureaucracy, has continued its lackadaisical procedures, creating a tremendous hole in the already challenging duty of homeland security.

Six months to the day after the terrorist attack of 9-11, Huffman Aviation, a flight school in Venice, Florida, received student visa approval forms for Mohammed Atta and Marwan al-Shehhi.

Now, unless you have been living in a hole for the past six months, at least one of those names should sound familiar, if not both.

Mohammed Atta crashed American Airlines Flight 11 into the World Trade Center's North Tower.

Marwan al-Shehhi crashed United Airlines Flight 175 into the South Tower of the World Trade Center minutes later.

Mohammed Atta, the ringleader of the attacks, has had his name all over the media print and television since September, even a special dedicated to him on MSNBC, "The Making of the Death Pilots," was produced. Still, some government employees organized and mailed the dead terrorists approval forms for a student visa.

That is a mind boggler. The even more terrifying reality is that more than one person missed this.

Everyone reports to someone; obviously whoever the subordinates reported to was on another planet, too.

The hierarchy that views student visa applications and approvals, as well as the INS in general, is littered with sloppiness.

The INS has shown this to the world several times, most recently with the hijackers posthumously distributed student visas.

There are no excuses for this. It is truly inexcusable and a disgrace. The monsters are probably in their caves right now, laughing about this, coming up with ways to exploit this weakness and send more killers to America.

There are seven million illegal immigrants running around the United States. How did that happen?

It takes a while for seven million of anything to accumulate and seven million people nonetheless.

Tolerating expired visas, make believe background checks, and handing out green cards as if they were Tic Tacs yields the seven million.

Lets not forget that the majority of the hijackers on 9-11 had expired or overdue visas. The number is sure to multiply unless the INS is revamped, soon.

Hopefully this serves as the wake-up call the INS needs; it certainly is an eerie reminder of that September day.

Also, it reaffirms our vulnerability as a nation. And despite how far we have come in six months, it reminds us how far we have to go.

The United States is a tough and brilliant castle. But right now, the INS is draining our moat and lowering the bridge to our enemies, dismantling an important defense, and letting them walk across.

The United States is a free society, which, as a result, can cause major security problems, like 9-11.

Although security can never be one-hundred percent strong in a free society, it can get very close to absolute with a tough, structured and thorough immigration service.

by:
Thomas Skypek

Many Thanks!

To the Editor,

A team from Western New England College spent Spring Break working on the Appalachian Trail in North Carolina.

They moved a privy and repaired a long section of trail that had slipped down the side of Yellow Creek Mountain.

Crew members included organizers Chandra Bellamy and Kris Kotowics, faculty advisor Dave Russell (and his high school daughter, who got a second Spring Break out of the deal), Colleen Dolbec, Daniel Smith, Charlene Moody, Lauren Veglia, Suzanne Monahan, Nick Morin, and Erin Moloney.

We thank them for the excellent work, good cheer, and energy. Our maintainers won't have to work on that piece of trail for years. Ask them sometime about their trip on US 129

by:
Doris Gove
President, Smoky Mountains Hiking Club
Knoxville, Tennessee

Sweatshop-Free Campus Movement Gaining Support

Our campus is on the move. The clarion call of the concerned members of the WNEC community is growing for a Sweatshop-Free College is growing louder.

And now is the time for the Administration to take action to protect the rights of the workers who make our garments.

College gear, sports uniforms, and club T-shirts are one way our school presents itself to the world.

When we wear the Blue and Gold, it is a sign that we are not only proud of our alma mater, but the values we as a College hold dear.

These are morals like excellence, honesty, concern for the community, and ethical conduct.

Our adherence to these ideals in our lives as students, faculty, and staff are what make WNEC such a fine educational institution.

However, are we living up to these ideals in all our practices? How can we be certain that our clothes were not made in substandard working conditions or worse, by child or forced labor?

It would truly reflect poorly on this school if the t-shirts emblazoned with the Golden Bear were made by child indentured servants in Pakistan, or indigenous women paid only a few cents an hour to toil in the maquiladora factories of Mexico.

Verification mechanisms need to be in place the prevent the human rights (and public relations) disaster that would come with such a discovery.

Yet at this point WNEC still has no rules on the books that our clothes must not be made by slaves, and there is practically no documentation about the factories where our clothes are made.

Our College must take responsibility for the merchandise bearing our name.

As WNEC strives to be a responsible member of the local community, through such laudable endeavors as Alternative Spring Break and Food Drives, we must also act as a responsible member of the world community.

We can do this by having compassion for the apparel industry laborers in the global south who make our clothing.

Concerned collegians have come together in an organization called WNEC United for Fair Trade to call upon the Administration to take two feasible and proactive steps for fair labor.

The first is to implement a Fair Labor Code of Conduct, a code of business ethics for suppliers of WNEC merchandise.

This document will delineate the rights of workers, such as a ban on child labor, that all makers of WNEC garments must adhere to.

To enforce the Code, our school should affiliate with the Workers Rights Consortium (www.workrights.org).

It is a non-profit organization, created by the administrations of colleges and universities of all sizes to ensure that our suppliers are following our ethical standards.

The Workers Rights Consortium will investigate garment makers and their factories, and as an affiliate school we join 95 other institutions such as Columbia, the University of Massachusetts and Vassar in unity, telling the apparel industry that we demand fairly-traded clothing.

Most reputable colleges already have worker's rights protections, putting WNEC behind the trend in higher education.

If we are truly going to be a College for the 21st Century, we should take the lead in not just educational excellence but also the highest standards of respect for human rights.

This week Student Senate passed a non-binding resolution calling on the Administration to write a Fair Labor Code, putting the official voice of the student body squarely behind the call for a Sweatshop-Free Campus.

It is hoped that the Administration will respond to the call, and this unprecedented wave of student activism, by affiliating with the Workers Rights Consortium without delay.

If this simple step is taken, soon we will be able to wear our WNEC clothes with confidence that the workers who made them were treated with respect and dignity.

To join WNEC United for Fair Trade's campaign for a Sweatshop-Free Campus, call James at 796-4492 or write to wnecunited@yahoo.com

by: James Russell

Attention WNEC Students

Come to the

CCGS CAREER FAIR

Cooperating Colleges of Greater Springfield

(AIC, BAY PATH, ELMS, HCC, SC, STCC, WNEC, WSC)

Date: Wednesday April 3, 2002
Time: 10:00-2:00pm

To be held
At
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
(Butova Gymnasium on Roosevelt Avenue)

******** Transportation available ********
from WNEC to AIC.

- Full Time Employment
- Internships/Coop
- Part-Time and Summer Jobs

http://www.collegecentral.com/westernmass

Partial Listing of Employers participating in the Career Fair

American Express Financial	Social Security Admin.	Walgreens
Blooms Business Systems	Hartford Hospital	U.S. Army
City of Hartford Police Dept.	Adecco Technical	Waddell & Reed
Massachusetts Police Corps.	Northwestern Mutual	Key Program
The N. E.Ctr. for Children	Triumvirate Environ.	Noble Hosp
Oxford Global Resources	E CT Health Network	Head Start

Educational Group To Increase Alcohol and Drug Awareness at Wester New England College

Western New England College's Alcohol Task Force and the Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with Massachusetts Governors' Highway Safety Bureau, present a performance by Screaming with Pleasure Productions titled "Last Call: A Sobering Look at Alcohol Abuse (And More)" on Thursday, April 4 from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Rivers Memorial. The free event is open to the public.

The performance will serve to increase awareness and sensitivity to tough issues, answer questions and dispel myths, and promote healthy alternatives to drugs and alcohol.

It also will help identify early warning signs of a problem and locate health and educational resources in the community.

Screaming with Pleasure Productions front man Bill Ross was a drug and alcohol educator at the University of Massachusetts for three years, and a residential counselor and assistant teacher at Northampton Center for Families and Children for two years.

He is a professional juggler and clown, and has been performing at fairs, festivals, and on the streets throughout the United States, Mexico, and Central America since 1984.

Golden Bear Home Game Schedule

Baseball

Fri. 3/29 - 1 pm
Albertus Magnus (DH)

Tues. 4/2 - 4 pm
Rensselaer

Wed. 4/3 - 3:30 pm
Western CT

Thurs. 4/11 - 3 pm
Westfield State

Men's Lacrosse

Next home game
April 16

Men's Tennis

Wed. 4/3 - 3 pm
Nichols

Sat. 4/6 - 1 pm
Johnson & Wales

Wed. 4/10 - 4 pm
Curry

Softball

Tues. 4/2 - 3 pm
Norwich (DH)

Wed. 4/3 - 3 pm
Emmanuel (DH)

Thurs. 4/4 - 4 pm
MCLA

Fri. 4/5 - 3 pm
Rivier (DH)

Sat. 4/6 - 1 pm
Johnson & Wales (DH)

Wed. 4/10 - 3 pm
Suffolk (DH)

Women's Lacrosse

Tues. 4/2 - 4 pm
Springfield

Tennis Captain Serves on NCAA Committee

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Western New England College men's tennis captain Mike Raymond has been doing more than just hitting winners on the tennis court this year.

Raymond, a senior Sport Management major from Vernon, Connecticut, has been serving on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

The SAAC, according to Raymond, is "the voice of the Division III student-athlete."

The SAAC's mission, according to the NCAA, is "to enhance the total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity for all student-athletes; protecting student-athlete welfare; and fostering a positive student-athlete image, while maintaining the tenants of the Division III philosophy."

Raymond's first order of business as a part of the 24-member committee was to attend the 96th annual Convention of the NCAA in Indianapolis, Indiana back in mid-January.

The biggest issue at hand for the Division III SAAC while in Indianapolis was amateurism.

While the committee cannot propose legislation, they have a pretty powerful influence on those that can propose and pass legislation.

"There was a big package of proposals that we recommended to be deregulated that got passed," said Raymond. "For example, a person can now accept prize money based on place finish before they are enrolled in college."

Senior Mike Raymond is among 24 student-athletes from across the country serving on the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

(Athletic Department Photo)

Within the SAAC, each member also serves on a subcommittee. Raymond served on a three-person subcommittee dealing with automatic qualifiers.

At the convention, he volunteered to speak in front of a thousand people on behalf of his group about proposed legislation regarding the selection process for championships.

This proposal suggested that there be an equal amount of at-large bids to automatic bids in championships, or in other words, 50 percent of the tournament field would be at-large teams that didn't win their respective conferences and thus did not receive an automatic bid.

Raymond spoke on the committee's position, which recommended that the legislators review the matter further.

The student-athletes serving on this committee come from all across the country.

Raymond represents not only our conference, the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC), but he also represents the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) which includes schools such as Springfield, Babson, and Wheaton. After Raymond's term is up in July 2003, a representative from the NEWMAC will take his place.

Raymond found out about the committee from WNEC athletics director and GNAC commissioner Dr. Mike Theulen, who also attended the convention.

"It is a tremendous honor," said Raymond. "I didn't even realize how much of an honor it was until I got there. I've made a lot of friends on the committee and even after one meeting, I realized this has been one of the better experiences in my life."

There are two more meetings coming up for Raymond and the Division III SAAC before next year's convention. The first will be July 19-22 in Providence, Rhode Island. The second, November 15-17, will be in San Antonio, Texas.

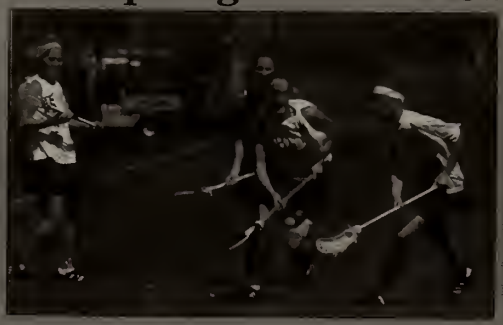
The committee will meet again from January 9-13, 2003 at the 97th annual Convention of the NCAA in Anaheim, California.

So far this experience has been very worthwhile for Raymond.

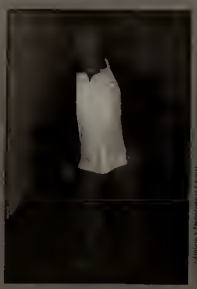
"I certainly am learning a lot about diversity and working in a group with many, many different opinions," said Raymond.

"In the process I'm making a lot of professional contacts and I came away with a lot of business cards!"

Spring Break in Orlando



Juniors Jamie Carney and Christie Pfister go for the ball. The women's lacrosse team won both of their matches, 11-10 vs. Stevens Institute of Technology and 14-8 against Curry College, while in Florida



Golden Bears equipment manager Norm Leclerc was named the honorary Athlete of the Week for helping out with driving all the teams around Orlando and other general maintenance.

A Tale of Two Athletic Trainers

Darryl Konicki
Staff Writer

If you ask any athlete here at WNEC who is one of the most important members of the athletics staff, you are likely to hear the coaches and athletic director. After a brief silence you might hear them mention the athletic trainers that work at the school.

Afterall, March is National Athletic Trainers Association Month.

While it is the coach that gets a player prepared mentally, it is the athletic trainers that physically get the student athletes ready to play.

Athletic Department Photo

Head Athletic Trainer Kim O'Leary

They cover 19 varsity sports as well as perform fitness evaluations, provide rehabilitation services and advise our student athletes on whether or not they might need to seek treatment for an injury, an orthopedic surgeon for example.

They also oversee a number of interns as well as a group of work-study students.

When asked what she liked about the job head athletic trainer Kim O'Leary said, "I'm working with healthy individually every day. It changes. It's not a desk job. Your watching sports for your job."

Assistant Athletic Trainer Mike Vallee added that, "it's a great combination of working in athletics, which I think a lot of athletic trainers are in [this profession] for, and at the same time in the medical field."

The one thing that they weren't too crazy about were the hours that they have to keep.

"The hours are crazy," O'Leary said. "Depending on the season the schedule varies."

"This is not a 9-5 job," Vallee added.

When asked what a typical work day might be they both said that did not exist.

"I could be covering a basketball doubleheader and I'll end at maybe 9 o'clock and Mike could be at a hockey game until around 11 o'clock. Of course you have all of the Saturday games when everyone is playing."

In addition to the games that they cover, the athletic trainers also get in early in the morning, if needed, for helping students with rehabilitation of injuries and to get athletes ready for their practices..

O'Leary did admit though that if they do not need to be there in the morning that they'll sneak in a little late, around 11 a.m.

"In order to become an athletic trainer, you need a bachelors degree and you need to go through an accredited program," said O'Leary.

"If you want to work at a college you should go for your masters, which could take an additional two years.

"You need to have your national certification after you are done with your education and clinical hours to be an athletic trainer.

"Also, depending on the state, you might need to get a license."

O'Leary also has the distinct honor of being the first female to hold the position of head athletic trainer here at WNEC.

"I worked hard to get to this place. I was an assistant at other jobs. The place to be is head athletic trainer.

"The individual that was here before was here for 18 years. When I came, I was the only female so that was a big change."

O'Leary became the head athletic trainer in October after being at WNEC for four years. Before that she worked as the Coordinator of Sports Medicine at MIT for two years, and recently served as assistant athletic trainer at AIC.

Athletic Department Photo

Assistant Athletic Trainer Mike Vallee

O' Leary earned a bachelor of science degree in athletic training from the University of New Hampshire, and a master of science degree from Springfield College.

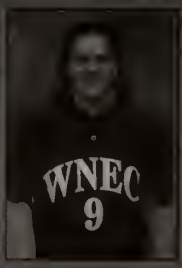
Assistant Athletic Trainer Mike Vallee came to WNEC this past November and has worked at a clinic on Long Island and at Putnam High School in Springfield.

Spring Break in Orlando

Marcie Bruder claims another strike-out victim. Against Division II Southern New Hampshire University, Bruder threw a one-hit, complete-game shutout in a 2-0 victory.

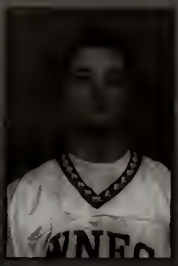
Athletes Of The Week

March 19 & 20



Jeni Perrara
Senior
Softball

Hit a team high .524 in eight games in Florida. Made no errors in 31 chances at second base.



Alex Nadeau
Sophomore
Men's Lacrosse

Midfielder scored eight goals in [illegible]

Tom Allessio
Senior
Baseball

- Leads team in batting with a .367 average and in stolen bases with four

[illegible]

- Scored four goals last Saturday vs. Mt Holyoke. Leads team with 12 goals after three games

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Fraternities - Sororities
Clubs - Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this quarter with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three fundraising event. No sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

---

1 HOUR FILM DEVELOPING

FEATURING FRAMES • ENLARGEMENTS • INSTANT PASS

"Old Fashioned Quality without The Wait"

IN A FLASH
One Hour Photo Processing

Breckwood Shoppes
477 Breckwood Blvd.
(Across from Western New England College
Corner of Breckwood & Wilbraham Road)

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-7 pm, Sat. 10am-5 pm

Kodak

FREE 2nd Set of Prints

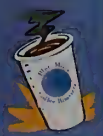
with any roll processed
Good on all C-41 process, 35mm, 110 & 126 rolls.

Blue Moon Coffee Roasters

No need to travel to Northampton, gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roaster is open at 5 Sumner Ave., near White St. Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, teas, cappuccinos, and backed goods.

Now open 'till 10 pm Mon-Sat.

Come sit and study, or bring your friends and



Lessons That Will Last A Lifetime.

OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

Put your college degree to use by enrolling into the Air Force Officer Training School. Upon successful completion, you will become a commissioned Air Force officer with benefits like – great starting pay, medical and dental care, management and travel opportunities. To discover how high a career in the Air Force can take you, call **1-800-423-USAF**, or visit our website at **www.airforce.com**

U.S. AIR FORCE

PROVEN to be the **BEST** in Test Preparation

ADVOCATE *BEST* OF SPRING FIELD READERS POLL 1999

ADVOCATE *BEST* OF THE VALLEY READERS POLL 1999

DAT
GMAT
GRE
LSAT
MCAT

Small Classes, Documented Highest Results, Guaranteed.

Locations:
All courses offered throughout western Mass and northern Connecticut

The Princeton Review

800.2Review
www.PrincetonReview.com

Study Abroad

CONSIDERING A SEMESTER AT A COLLEGE IN

ANYWHERE YOU CHOOSE.

THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER
(OR TACO, CRUMPET, SUSHI).

- *COSTS COMPARABLE TO WNEC*
- *FINANCIAL AID CARRIES OVER*
- *NO TIME LOST TOWARD GRADUATION*
- *SETS YOUR RESUME APART*
- *PROVIDES INSIGHT INTO OTHER CULTURES AND YOURSELF*

CONTACT: PROF. B. PORTER
H212J, 782-1760, bporter@wnec.edu

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 49/Issue 6 • April 25, 2002

WNEC Continuing to Grow with New Welcome Center

Ryan DaJong
Staff Writer

Once again another new building project is sprouting up on campus. The Welcome Center is well underway.

Located in the Herman parking lot, this 17,000 square foot building will be a modern addition to the ever-growing college facilities. Mike Duncan, the Director of Facilities Management, gave the Westerner an update on the construction.

Scheduled to be completed by July 2002, the Welcome Center will be open and operational by August, just in time for the Fall Semester to begin.

The Architects for the project are Tessier & Associates, and construction is being completed by A.R. Greene & Sons, who also built Evergreen Village.

Mike Duncan mentioned that construction was ahead of schedule and moving along smoothly due to the break in weather this winter season, unlike the construction of Evergreen which was greatly delayed due to harsh winter weather.

An advantage in operating this building is the decision to outfit the structure with geothermal energy conscious heating and cooling, which uses groundwater to heat and cool the structure, similar to the system used in Evergreen.

Although this new project will be adding to the campus in various ways, it is also taking away parking.

When asked about the loss of parking, Mike Duncan responded "There is an arrangement for parking in the College's Master Plan, but at this point there is still a cushion for parking on campus and we are in no danger of having a shortage."

No information was released concerning cost or budgeted amount for the Center.

Dr. Charles Pollock, Vice President of Enrollment Management, stated "The Welcome Center will provide an attractive, positive image for visitors to the campus."

This new look is quite different from the current admissions center, which consists of two houses, located across the street from the main campus. The Admissions staff hopes to move in during the week of August 5th.

Holding the title "Welcome Center" this open and bright structure will house not only the Admissions Department, but the Continuing Education Department, and visitor center.

Not only is the Welcome Center going to present a new image for WNEC, but will also help solve a space and storage issue that currently faces these two major departments. Look for a dedication ceremony to be held sometime in September to "welcome" the new building the WNEC community.

The new Admissions and Welcoming Center is underway with its completion scheduled for some time in July

WNEC Hosts the 29th Annual Sociology Conference

Ali J. Martin
Contributing Writer

Western New England College was the first time host for this year's Sociology Conference, recently held on April 19th, 2002.

Dr. Kems-Zucco, assistant Professor of Sociology for Western New England College served as the faculty coordinator for this year's conference, which invited Sociology majors from other colleges to come and present their recent Sociological research.

Presiders over the conference included Professors Donald Cunningham from the University of Rhode Island, Karen Hayden from the Merrimack College, Richard Luxton from Western New England College, Shirley Jackson from Southern Connecticut State University, John Mitrano from Central Connecticut State University, Yvonne Burgess from Merrimack College, Karen Frederick from St. Anselm College, and Marjorie Marcoux Faiia from Rivier College.

Professor Maynard Seider from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts gave the keynote address.

Professor Seider received a BA in Sociology from the University of CT in 1964, a master's from the University of Wisconsin in 1967, and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He wrote the widely read book, "A Year in the Life of a Factory", which explains Seideis's own life experiences when he worked for a year in a factory.

The Conference began at 8:00 am with registration followed hy a greeting from Dean Saeed Ghahramani of the School of Arts and Sciences.

The Conference concluded at 4:00 pm with a farewell from Dr. Kerns-Zucco. Sociology majors from colleges throughout New England presented research.

Topics ranged from sports and leadership and family and roles, to drugs and alcohol. The conference consisted of 4 session. These four sessions were then divided into workshops. Each session had two or three workshops for a total of eleven. The The workshops were themed, and the presenters and guests signed up for the theme workshop that interested them.

Votes were taken at the end of the Conference to decide who presented the best Sociological work.

Professor Seider also served as project manager for the play "The Sprague Years", performed in Norh Adams.

This year, Anna-Kaarina Adair, a Junior Sociology major from Western New England College received the most first place votes for her presentation on "The Effects Participation in Division III Collegiate Sports Has on Academic Success."

The Most Original Title Award was given to Amy Feldman from Central Connecticut State University for "Doctor, Doctor, Give Me The News, I Have a Bad Case of Loving You: The Effects of Medical Residencies on Doctors' Relationships With Significant Others".

Another presentation, which received a great deal of praise, was the poster session presented by Hillary Otey from Merrimack College. Her presentation was on the "Views of Gender Inequality in India."

From a student's perspective. every presentation was well researched, well organized, and very interesting. Everyone who participated should feel proud of his or her accomplishments.

Professor Kerns-Zucco said that the Sociological Conference, "has historically been a good experience for undergraduate sociology majors". Dr. Faiia from Rivier College said that this year's conference wnext years Sociological Conference.

NEWS
WNEC Hosts the Elks National Hoops Shoot-Out.
page 3

EDITORIALS
Two Seniors Give Final Farewells to WNEC.
page 9

A&E
See What Concerts and Movies to See This Summer.
page 6

SPORTS
Softball Team Hes Record Setting Season.
page 10

"I Hate Hamlet" Proves That Art Does Exist at WNEC

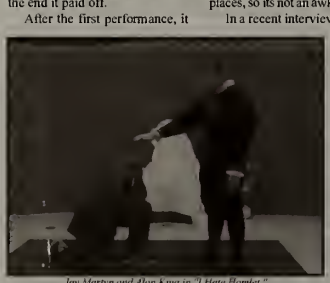
Matt Mancuso
Staff Writer

The Stageless Players latest performance was "I Hate Hamlet." They put a great deal of time and effort into this production, and in the end it paid off.

After the first performance, it was clear that the cast should be congratulated on a job well done because the play itself is brilliant.

For those who are into a light hearted comedy, this play is for you, nothing really too dramatic, this play seemed to guide humor into key places, so its not an awkward humor.

In a recent interview with two of the actors, Jay Martyn, who plays Andrew Rally, and Brianna Valenti, who not only plays Deirdre(and is also the president of the Stageless Players) talked about their work in the show.



Jay Martyn and Alan King in "I Hate Hamlet."

"Playing a normal person is the hardest part of my character, it's hard to get into a normal person mind-frame when it comes to an actor on stage." Jay said when asked about the challenges of the part.

Brianna made a point to mention, "The last scene is my favorite scene because its fun and full of energy, but at the same time challenging to make myself go insane, and not overacting."

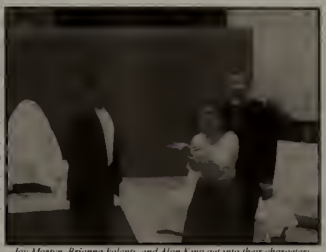
Both agreed that it was the help of the supporting cast that brought the production together, stating everyone worked hard and they were all trying to help each other through their own parts, no one was alone up there on stage.

A problem did arise however, a snag if you will, having to do with school policies, for one their willingness to stay out of the way.

It seemed whenever we needed help with lights or with ordering light bulbs, the school wanted nothing to do with it and it was because of the help of some faculty that we were able to put a lot of the "behind the scenes" work together.

They really helped a great deal, where the school didn't have enough time to deal with a little issue such as ours.

Jay just had one comment, "Men-in-tights rock the stage." And on that note: a final thought. A lot of work put into this play, and a good turn out, the WNEC community should smile at the fact that art is present at WNEC, and its slowly starting to pick up speed.



Jay Martyn, Brianna Valenti, and Alan King get into their characters.

Students Clean Up to Fight Hunger

Jessica Bundgard
Contnbuting Writer

On Saturday April 6th, 2002 Western New England College joined forces with Our Lady of the Elms College, Springfield College, and Springfield Technical Community College in the 18th Annual Hunger Cleanup.

Coordinated by the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessnes and promoted on college campuses throughout the country, this event raises money for local, national, and international anti-hunger relief agencies and provides a day of local community service in cities throughout the United States.

Western New England College's contribution to the Greater Springfield Hunger Cleanup was significant.

Of the 80 volunteers who showed up at 10a.m. ready to work, twenty were from Western New England College.

Of the $2200.00 raised through pledges and corporate sponsorship, $700.00 was raised by our own students, staff, and faculty.

These volunteers participated in food drives, community garden projects, and street clean-up as well as cleanups at various community centers like Dunbar Community Center and the Ronald McDonald House.

With 31 million Americans suffering form hunger and 3 million Americans without homes, the Office of Learning Beyond the Classroom is proud to sponsor events like these and commends all students, staff and faculty who get involved to make a difference. THANK YOU!

WNEC Named "Best Local College" in Reader's Poll

James Russell
Staff Writer

Every Springtime businesses across Western Massachusetts cross their fingers, hoping to win the coveted "Best of the Valley" citation in the annual Valley Advocate Reader's Poll.

The largest alternative weekly paper in the Pioneer Valley, the Advocate surveys its readership to determine the highest quality establishments in the region.

This year Western New England College as recognized as the people's choice for Best Local College. Beating out such competitors as the Elms, Springfield College, American International College and Springfield Technical Community College, WNEC repeated its top-of-the-polls victory in 2001.

The feature announcing WNEC's selection for this recognition will appear in the April 24th edition of the Advocate. "Western New England College is an important resource in the entire region.

"It is nice to be recognized by the Advocate Readers as the best. The strength of an institution should be measured by it's ability to enrich the entire community" said Brenda Garton, former Channel 22 News anchorwoman and Director of College Relations and Community Outreach for WNEC.

Last year's article emphasized our College's stature in the regional political and business community.

For example, many civil leaders and bank presidents in the Valley are WNEC alumni.

This year's profile is expected to focus on student volunteerism, highlighting participants in the Alternative Spring Break program who spent their vacations building affordable housing and refurbishing trails and historical sites.

One often mentioned reason for WNEC's popularity is the individual attention paid to each student. As the region's most prominent consumer survey, the College's repeated success in the reader's poll is likely to increase community awareness of and applications to our institution.

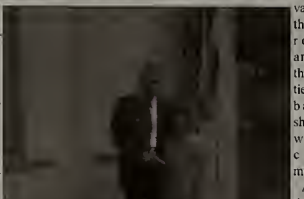
WNEC Hosts Elks Hoops Shoot-out

Matt Mancuso
Staff Writer

The Western New England College community had the honor yet again of hosting the Benevolent & Protective Order of the Elks National Hoop Shoot.

This event takes youths from all over America and brings them together to shoot baskets, meet new friends and just have fun.

Charles Russell, a strong member of the Elks organization, said, "This event started back in 1946 in Corvallis, Oregon by Frank Heis. It first started as a regional event and, in 1972, it was made national. There are three groups of children, the 8-9 year olds both boys and girls, 10-11 year olds, both boys and girls and 12-13 year olds both boys and girls."



Elks member Lou Connally stands with the 3rd place finisher for the 8-9 age group after the shoot-out in the AHLC

Buddy Avassi, the hosting coordinator stated, "The Elks make sure the families get to and from the hotel. Seventy-two youths out of 3 million come to Springfield and the winners have their name inscribed on a wall at the Basketball Hall of Fame."

This event was well attended and each youth had a smile on his or her face. The Elk members were all running around making sure everyone knew where to go and what to do.

Lou Connelly expressed "This is an excellent program this year, and this is one of the greatest youth programs that the Elks have. This is a youth builder and it boosts children's self-esteem. The reception here at Western New England College has been wonderful and the hospitality outstanding."

The competition started all the way back in November when the local competitions were held. The youths had to shoot 25 free throws in order to advance to the next round. Only the top shooters advance to the next round and if there is a tie, a five basket shootout would commence. After the local competitions end, the youths move onto districts, then states, and finally the national event.

The Elks chose WNEC as its hosting school and, hopefuly, the school will host this event for years to come. If it does, all students are encouraged to go in the next couple years and root on these young and talented athletes.

Senior Housing Lottery Update

Nicola McGrath
Contributing Writer

On March 25, 2002 and March 26, 2002, the Senior Housing Lottery took place. The Senior Housing Lottery allows students who will complete their education next fall and those who will attain senior status for Fall 2002 to chose with whom and where they would like to live. (Senior status is determined by the number of credits attained.)

Before the Housing Lottery process began, students were required to submit a Senior Housing Application and pay the $100.00 housing deposit.

On Friday, March 22, 2002, a public drawing took place in the Campus Center to determine the order in which students would chose their preferred housing location.

During the lottery process, students were able to choose from the spaces available in both Evergreen Village and Gateway Village. A total of 170 spaces were available in Evergreen Village.

In addition to efficiency, one bedroom, and two bedroom apartments in Gateway Village, 14 three-bedroom apartments were available.

Approximately 356 students elected to participate in this year's lottery process. At the conclusion of the Senior Lottery Process, 33 current seniors and 135 current juniors chose to live in Evergreen Village. Additionally, all of the three bedroom apartments in Gateway Village were filled.

A reassignment waiting list was available during the two nights of lottery for groups to request to be reassigned should space become available in Evergreen Village or in the three bedroom units in Gateway Village.

Evaluations of the process were also available for students to provide feedback regarding the lottery process. If you have any questions regarding the Senior Housing Lottery process, or any suggestions regarding how the process might be improved for next year, please contact the Office of Residence Life.

One last reminder, housing assignments chosen during the lottery are tentative. Please be sure to submit your $500.00 housing reservation payment to SAS by July 1, 2002 to confirm your housing assignment!

Horoscopes: As Seen Through the Crystal Ball of Miss Bella Boobala

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 18) - What to do what to do? You are left to make a decision that could effect you in ways you never knew. Let your heart be your guide..

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20) - Life is a battlefield. Whether you chose to fight or chose to stand and watch, you at least need to make up your mind.

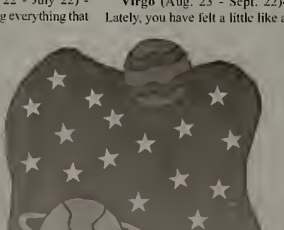
Aries (March 21 - April 20) - Love is in the air. You are trying to escape it. You have to breathe. So take a deep breath. Close your eyes, and let the sensations of love sweep over you.

Taurus (April 21 - May 20) - You have a new energy from an unlikely place. Keep one eye open at [illegible]

- Calm, cool, and collective, you are not. Stressed, worried, and crazy, you are. Just deal. Things cannot always be negative.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) - You enjoy knowing everything that is happening in everyone's lives. What you fail to see is what is happening in your own. open up those puppies and look!

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) - Movin and a groovin' are the word that describes you right [illegible]



between realizing and getting things accomplished. Good for you. Now to teach the people you live with...

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)- Lately, you have felt a little like a Cinderella. A little magic and a whole lot of chores. Just remember someday your prince or princess will come.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)- Busy as a beaver you are. Study, study, study. Take a break and enjoy the sunshine!

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) - My crystal ball is too hazy for you. Make your own path.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) - You are such a special person. People value both your insight and the person you are. Never be afraid of being truthful. It is one of your most endearing qualities.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 20)- Fun, fun, fun. Unlike Libra you are all about fun. Too much fun can be bad for your [illegible]

THE WESTERNER

Melanie Gura
Editor

Ryan DeJong
Assistant Editor

Kevin Hassett
Darryl Konicki
Sports Co-Editors

Eric Hanusek
A & E Editor

Joel Dusoe
Op/Ed Editor

Jennifer Gardner
Laura Hinojosa
Darryl Konicki
Matt Mancuso
James Russell
Staff Writers

Cliff Vachon
Roving Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Jessica Bundgard
Jason Fuller
Liz Gargon
Ali Martin
Nicole McGrath
Steve Roulier
Bryan Veith
JoshWhite
Contributing Writers

Photos This Issue
Athletic Department
Ryan DeJong
Liz Gargon
Lindsay Lavoie
Matt Mancuso

Review of Art and Literature Hosts Another Open Mic

Jason Fuller
Contributing Writer

On Tuesday April 16th, the Review of Art and Literature hosted their fourth and final Open Mic and Coffee House night. The Open Mic is a night dedicated to the poetry and music of students and others involved in the college community.

Dan and Jeremy play some of their original music.

Starting around 8pm, the Open Mic ran for about three hours. Sponsered by the Review of Art and Literature, the Open Mic included poetry by students on campus and off campus.

Beth Simpson, Andy Shattuck, and Jeff Pacific were among the student authors who participated by reading their own work as well as the work of other authors who have inspired and excited them throughout the past. Also, visiting poet Melissa Watkins shared some of her work with the college community.

Beyond poetry, the Open Mic featured music by some of the most exciting and fun musicians on campus. Dan Hocker, Chris Harrington and Chris Murphy played five songs for their friends and fans.

Unfortunately, Chris Murphy announced he would be leaving the campus community and that it was his last performance. Their set included Chris Harrington's debut as a singer and bassist with the Pink Floyd hit "Money" and also included a number of their favorite covers.

They were not the only musicians to share their talent at the Open Mic. They were joined by Mike Thomas, Matt Hoube, and Eddie Gormley who also took the stage and sang some of their favorite songs. As a trio, they sang "41" by Dave Mathew's Band and a number of other songs ending with "WatchTower".

They were also kind enough to offer another musician use of their equipment. Tony Martin, a resident of East Longmeadow and friend of WNEC students, also stepped on stage to perform. He sang a collection of songs by Dave Mathews at the request of numerous members of the audience.

The night was finished with a number of poetic works by myself and by other members of the campus community including Lindsay LaValley who shared her first major poetic work as well as a silly poem entitled "Flamingo" which is printed in the 2002 Review of Art and Literature.

Jeff, Jason, and Joe recite some original poetry

Hosted four times a semester, the Open Mics, often called Coffee Houses, occur in the Bears Den usually on Tuesday nights. They are open to the entire campus as well as staff, faculty and friends of the college community.

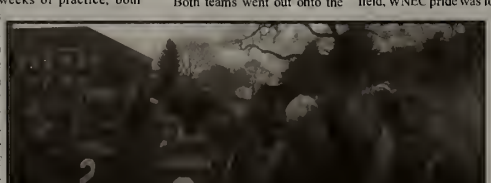
Everyone is invited to attend and participate, sharing their favorite poems from either their own colletion of work or their favorite authors. Musicians are also invited to do acoustic performances. The Open Mics are free for all and the stage is open to anyone interested in joining in.

Though they are finished for this year, the Review of Art and Literature is planning at least two Open Mics in the fall semester and possilbly even a third. Everyone should feel free to join in or at least come by and enjoy the work of your fellow students.

Powder Puff: Freshmen Fury Take on Sophomore Scorpions

Liz Gargan
Contributing Writer

On Saturday April 13th at 3pm freshmen and sophomore girls wreaked havoc on each other. After weeks of practice, both teams went out on the tundra ready to play Powder Puff football.



The Freshmen Fury and the Sophomore Scorpions prepare for the second annual Powder Puff game.

The Freshmen Fury, dressed in red ran out onto the field to "Eye of the Tiger" led by captains Andrea "Spitfire" Faherty, Adrienne "Rocky" Guay, Kristen Kataja and Jana Loper.

Coaches Matt Coviello, Darren Trupia and Kyle Atkinson prepared the Fury well as they went out on the field ready to dominate.

The Sophomore Scorpions, dressed in blue stormed onto the field led by captains Tara Potts and Melody Bicknell. Coaches Matt Chellis, Spencer Goldsmith, Matt Miceli and Steve Pantaleo taught the Scorpions a lot about the game of football.

Both teams went out onto the field ready to run, throw and catch the ball and the game remained scoreless for a long time.

Who would have guessed how vicious a group of girls could get? Innocent girls flag football turned into full tackle, full contact football. Punches were thrown, girls were "accidentally" tripped, and the game became more like a wrestling match than a non-contact sport.

Referees Steve Ferko, Brett Lord, Jody Lemoi and Kyle Lizette were amazed at how seriously the girls took the game.

When the Sophomores and Freshmen stepped out onto the field, WNEC pride was forgotten and class pride took over.

Scorpion quarterback Jill Saridaki later commented about the game, "other than a few minor incidents, the game went really well and was a great way for the women of wnec to show off their skills on the football field."

Many fans and supporters of each class came out to enjoy the game, have fun, and cheer on their favorite teams. Although the Scorpions hung their heads in defeat at the end of the game, a good time was had by all.

WNEC Joins "Call to Serve" Campaign

Stephen Roullar
Contributing Writer

Western New England College president Dr. Anthony Caprio has joined more than 340 college and university presidents in a national "Call to Serve" campaign to address the federal government's looming work force crisis.

A news conference to officially announce the campaign is scheduled for Monday, April 22 at 10:30 a.m. in Washington, DC.

Students and the College community are encouraged to view the conference live on the Internet at http://www.ourpublicservice.org.

Campuses that have signed on to "A Call to Serve: Leaders in Education Allied for Public Service" will help make federal service come alive for students by sponsoring campus events on federal careers, highlighting alumni who are making important contributions as federal employees, and encouraging leaders to speak about government service at commeneement or other occasions.

The campaign will be facilitated by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and the Partnership for Public Service, a non-partisan, non-profit organization aimed at recruiting and retaining excellence in the federal civil service.

United States Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao will join OPM Director Kay Coles James, U.S. Senator Joseph Lieberman, Partnership President Max Stier, and others at the official launch of the "Call to Serve" campaign in Washington on Monday.

The event will be broadcast nationwide via satellite feeds as well as the Internet. Nearly half of the federal work force may be eligible to retire within the next five years including over 70 percent of senior managers.

Currently only one in six college-educated Americans expresses significant interest in working for the federal government, according to a nationwide public opinion survey.

The Westerner's Roving Reporter Asks.....

WNEC provides an abundance of programs throughout the year, out of all that you have attended...

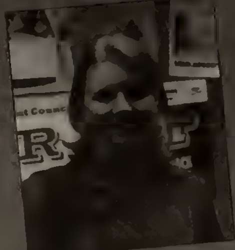
What has been your favorite program?

"Comedy [illegible]." [illegible] (Left)

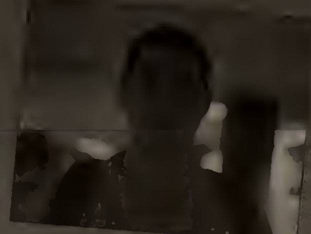
"[illegible] boy dance at Karaoke Night." Kevin [illegible] (Right)

"I liked the [illegible] Volleyball Tournament, "[illegible]," and Comedy Night." Dan [illegible] (Left)

"Winter Week." Kate Demers (Right)



"Spring Fling." [illegible] (Left)



"High School Basketball Invitational and the Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony." -Andy Schuman (Right)

Comic Book Icons, Aliens, and Jedis Rule This Summer's Blockbuster Season

MAY

4th

Spiderman-*Tobey Maquire, Kirsten Dunst, and Willem Dafoe*-Maquire stars as the famed webslinger, in what looks like the best comic book adaptation since "Batman". Dafoe costars as the Green Goblin and Dunst plays Spidey's love interest Mary Jane. With excellect casting, special effects, and the directing of "Evil Dead" director Sam Raimi, this promises to be an excellent summer blockbuster.

16th

Star Wars Episode II: The Attack of the Clones- *Ryan Christenson, Natalie Portman, Ewan McGregor*- This is the much anticipated second "Star Wars" prequel that looks a lot more promising than "Episode I". This follows Anakin Skywalker's teenage years, and his falling in love with Queen Amadala. This looks to have much more action and better fight scenes than the uneventful "Episode I". This one even features the cult favorite villian Boba Fett's father in a main villian role. You can even expect to see Samuel L. Jackson weilding a light saber. As a "Star Wars" fan, this is the movie that I am most anticipating this summer.

JUNE

14th

Scooby Doo-*Matthew Lilliard, Freddie Prinze Jr., Sarah Michele Gellar*-This is the live action version of the popular cartoon. Judging from the trailers, it looks as if they stayed fairly loyal to the cartoon, but I'm not a big fan of the casting of Lilliard as Shaggy. I feel that the small part of "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" was probably the most true to the cartoon version that you'll see. Personally, I'm looking forward to seeing how they address the numerous drug references that the cartoon had, as well as the numerous sexual innuendos.

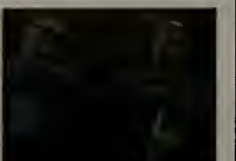
Windtalkers- *Nicolas Cage, Chrisian Slater*- This is a John Woo directed WWII action epic. Apparently the budget for this came close to Woo's budget for his last blockbuster "Mission Impossible II". This one is sure to feature many well-done action scenes, and probably a lot of slow-motion and well choreographed gunfire, as is tradition in Woo's films. It will be interesting to see if Woo can rebound from the negative reviews that surrounded "M.I:2".

21st

Minority Report-*Tom Cruise, Colin Ferrel*- Tom Cruise stars in this new Steven Spielberg sci-fi action thriller. It takes place in the future, where telepathic detectives prevent murders by apprehending the killer before they can commit the crime. Cruise stars as one of these detectives who sees himself as being a killer in the future and has to fight for his life. It features many special effects and Spielberg loves doing this kind of thing. It will be interesting to see how he follows up the critically and audience criticised film "A.I."

28th

Mr. Deeds- *Adam Sandler, Wynona Ryder*- Sandler stars as an idiot from Vermont who inherits $20 million and moves to New York City, and outsmarts the slick city folk in typical comedic fashion. Ryder costars as his romantic lead. Sandler desperately needs this film to do well as "Little Nicky" greatly hurt his romantic comedy appeal that "The Wedding Singer" and "Big Daddy" helped establish. The plot has been done about 1,000 times before. Hopefully there will be enough Vermont jokes to make up for it.



Mini Me and Dr. Evil Return In the New "Austin Powers"

JULY

3rd

Men In Black 2- *Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Lara Flyn Boyle*- This is the sequel to the massive hit of a few years ago. Smith and Jones both return as their original characters and Flynn Boyle plays the villian alien who takes the form of a evil Victoria's Secret model. The effects should be even better than the first one, and well the plot is pretty much irrelevant. It will be interesting to see how Smith returns to his "Big Willy" action days, as he hasn't had a successful action movie in years, especially after his strong dramatic turn in "Ali".

26th

Austin Powers 3- *Mike Myers, Seth Green, Michael Cane, Beyonce Knowles*- This is the third installment of the popular series and has Myers returning as Austin, Dr. Evil, Fat Bastard, and the new villian Goldmember. Knowles, of Destiny's Child fame, plays Austin's love interest, and Caine plays Austin's father. This movie could be good or bad. The character of Austin became stale after the first movie, and the second one was really carried by Dr. Evil, and with Goldmember being introduced, that means less of Dr. Evil, who in my opinion is what has made the movies. I am also worried about Knowles being cast. I never have liked the idea, and she is a far cry from Heather Graham and Elizabeth Hurley. I just don't think any good can come from her being cast as anything, let alone a main character.

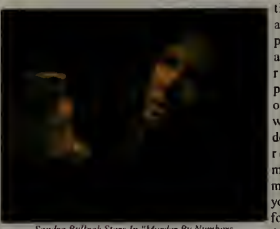
"Episode II: The Attack of the Clones" Finally Hits Theatres This May

"Murder By Numbers": Count on a Good Flick

Laura Hinojosa
Staff Writer

"Murder By Numbers", written by Tony Gayton and directed by Barbet Schroeder, is a great psychological thriller with an intense and twisted plot. Sandra Bullock and Ben Chaplin play crime scene investigators that take on a case that takes them on quite a ride.

Ryan Gosling and Michael Pitt are the smart, manipulative teenagers who commit the murder. Beneath this plot is a sub plot that is pieced together throughout the movie and in the end will give you a whole new take on certain characters. Each character in this movie was so well written and developed that you really get a sense of where each one is coming from.



Sandra Bullock Stars In "Murder By Numbers"

In general, this movie was excellently thought out and planned. "Murder By Numbers" you intrigued, not so much by the action, but by the dialogue. Don't expect 2 hours of non-stop action, but you are in for a great psychological mind play.

You also get a whole new perspective on crime/murder from the two teenage characters in the movie, though it is somewhat sick and twisted. The music and direction of this film add so much to the overall setting and mood of "Murder By Numbers", which is quite mysterious and eerie.

In addition, you may learn something about crime scene investigation/ analysis, profiling, and forensic psychology. I would definitely recommend this movie if you are up for a thinker/ thriller. It is worth the time and money in my opinion.

*Just a little side note-some of the murder scenes in this movie were quite disturbing so if you are sensitive to such images, you may want to think twice before going to see this flick.

This Summer Features Tours From An Eclectic Mix of Today and Yesterday's Artists

Vans Warped Tour-*Bands:Bad Religion, A New Found Glory, Alkaline Trio, Thursday, NOFX, MXPX, Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Anti-Flag, Good Charlotte, Lagwogon, No Use For A Name, Reel Big Fish, as well as many other punk bands.*

This is the annual punk rock and extreme sports festival, and it features a solid line-up once again this year, with Bad Religion headlining. ***Locol Dote: Boston August 15, For more info visit www.warpedtour.com***

OzzFest- *Bands: Ozzy Osbourne, System of a Down, P.O.D., Hatebreed, Drowning Pool, Rob Zombie, Adema, Ill Nino, Andrew W.K., Apex Theory.*

This was supposed to also feature the Rage Against the Machine/ Chris Cornell project, but they pulled out, leaving Rob Zombie to take their place on the main stage. This lineup isn't as good as it has been in the past, and American fans get shortchanged a little with Tool playing the UK dates. Local Date: Boston July 16 For more info go to www.ozzfest.com

Pop Disaster Tour- *Bands: Blink 182, Green Day, Jimmy Eat World (West Coast), Saves the Day (East Coast)*

This is either every punk fan's nightmare or guilty pleasure. It also means every 12 year old TRL punk poser's dream come true. It's too bad that Jimmy Eat World only plays the West Coast dates, because they are quite good live, whereas Saves the Day is downright sickening live. ***Local Dote: Boston June 2 For more info visit www.popdisaster.com***

Usher/Nas/ Faith Evans-

Bands: Usher, Nas, and Faith Evans. I know of some people who would be quite upset at the fact that Usher is headlining over Nas, but I guess that is for more commercial appeal. ***Local Dates: June 16, Mansfield. For more info visit ticketmaster.com***

Get Up Kids

Bands: The Get Up Kids, Hot Rod Circuit. The Get Up Kids have becoming more and more mainstream, and they have a new album coming out in May, and Hot Rod Circuit has been getting bigger and bigger. It will just be dissapointing to see The Get Up Kids continue to abandon their old material more and more. ***Locol Dates: Worcester July 6 For more info visit thegetupkids.net or hotrod-circuit.com***

Green Day Joins Blink 182 on the Pop Disaster Tour

Dave Matthews Band*Bands: Dove Motthews Bond.*

Dave hits the road once again this summer to play sold out stadiums all across the country. ***Locol Dotes: Hortford 7/25, 7/26 For More Info Visit www.davemotthewsbond.com***

Also of Note:

Static X- The Hippodrome May 21, **Rush**-Hartford June 28, **Lenny Kravitz**- Mansfield July 7.

Poison/ Winger/ Cinderella- Mansfield July 3

Strung Out Sticks To Their Southern Californian Punk Rock Roots on their Latest

Bryan Veith
Contributing Writer

Strung Out has been a perennial power on for Fat Wreck Chords since the early years of the 1990's. With four full length albums, several EPs and seemingly countless compilation and vinyl releases, the band has proven themselves to be one of the most talented bands to emerge from the virtually flooded Southern California music scene.

Strung Out is clearly making a statement that they are not going to be slowing down any time soon with the release of their latest full length album, "An American Paradox". Fat Wreck Chords describes the band as "So-cal metallic punk," I would have to say that distinction describes, much less their tendency to sound metallic, as their resistance to weaken their sound as so many punk bands have done in recent years.

"An American Paradox" is the New Album From Strung Out

"An American Paradox" clearly shows that Strung Out is much more concerned with their artistic integrity than pulling fans from the seemingly ever-growing fan base that follows the watered down renditions of previous great works that are exemplified by the latest releases by bands like Blink-182, Saves The Day, and Dashboard Confessional.

Five years ago Strung Out was just another great band in the endless talent pool that populated the Southern California labels, Fat Wreck Chords and Epitaph Records.

Unfortunately, the punk scene has suffered due to far too many reasons to mention, and Strung Out has emerged as a pillar of strength, and a great role model to any band that yearns to rock just as hard as Bad Religion, Propagandhi, or Blink-182 did at the time.

"An American Paradox" hits stores April 23 anywhere you can find good punk rock albums, and I would strongly suggest it for anyone that appreciated the hard driving punk scene a few years back.

Coming Soon

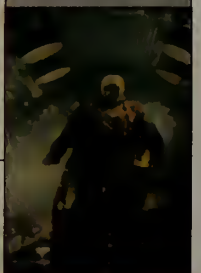
Movies

Opening This Weekend **Jason X**- Jason from "Friday the 13th" is now in demon form and in outer space. I don't know what else to say about this one. It just makes fun of itself.

Life Or Something Like It- This is a quirky comedy starring Angelina Jolie and Edward Burns. I just realized just how few good movies Jolie has actually done.

Music

Trey Anastasio- *"Trey Anastosio"* This is the solo debut from the Phish member. Potheads of the



Laura

Thank You for writing great review after great review week after week. They will be missed next year. Good luck with your post-WNEC plans and your future endeavors.

Eric Hanusek
A&E Editor

Deuce Says: A Year to Remember, Greatness to Come!

Well this is it for the year, and there is so much more I want to talk about. On a daily basis I think of new issues that would be a great topic to put in the Westerner, unfortunately we only do so many issues, so I try to talk about things that are going to grab your interest.

What a year it has been though. I think many are ready to put it behind us, never forgetting the experiences we had in 2001-2002, but looking ahead to a fresh start in 2002-2003.

We just about began this school year with the tragic events of September 11th, and we end it as America continues to wage it's war on terrorism and the Middle East is on the brink of losing any stability it still has.

In our young lives these are probably some of the most trying times any of us have had to face.

Never before has the world experienced what it is experiencing now. And as American's it has been a wake up call that we are not immune to the world's problems.

Our grandparents suffered through the great depression, saw the attacks on Pearl Harbor, and lived through World War II.

Our parents grew up in the midst of the JFK assignation, the Vietnam Conflict and the Cold War with the Soviet Union.

However our generation up until this year has never been faced with catastrophic or life changing events like we experienced September 11th and are now seeing in the Middle East.

And after this year can we no longer ever say "it only happens to them" we know now it can happen to us.

As the next generation to enter the so called "real world," quite literally will we have the weight of the world and it's problems on our shoulders.

Soon enough it will be us that are responsible for sustaining a stable economy. It will be our generation being elected to local, state, and federal office making decisions that will effect our everyday lives.

It will be all of us that will have to truly shape and cradle a global marketplace, economy, and community.

The question that many have asked, especially our elders, is if our generation will ever be able to face the challenges that lie ahead.

And at times I found myself asking that very question. Will our generation, one of the most apathetic in American history, live up to leading this nation and this world through turbulent times that we will undoubtedly face in the future?

It was soon after the events on the morning of September 11th that question was answered.

It was because how this community responded and continues to respond, that I will no longer ponder our ability to make America and the World stronger then ever before.

The caliber of people we are, as individuals and collectively, surely has been displayed prominently over the past school year.

We came together, we united, we prayed, we volunteered, and we mourned.

It was through the unity that I saw leadership and compassion in all of us. And it is that leadership and in that compassion that I have no doubt we will excel and exceed any expectations ever placed on us.

And that's the message I want to leave everyone with this year. We should be so proud to be a part of this country and the way we all responded to September 11th. We must however continue to be united as a community and a nation, especially as we grow older and move on from our college years.

Learning from our experiences of September 11th and using the knowledge that if we unify we can get anything accomplished will surely make us a stronger generation then any previous one.

My point is that we cannot forget how we responded to September 11th, because I believe in every since of the word that is how our generation will be defined.

We will be expected to live up to those standards of compassion and outreach, and live up to them we must.

We are the leaders of tommorow, and I have more faith in our generation then I ever did before.

Everyone else can call us what they will, "generation x or y" the "MTV generation."

But over the past 7 months I have seen a greatness in us as a college community that I know extends throughout the nation that will make us the greatest generation this nation has ever seen.

Be proud to be an American, be proud to be who you are, and be proud to know that in just a few short years we will have the opportunity to shape global issues for years to come!

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. I look forward to writing more of "Deuce Says" next Semester.

On a personal note I would like to wish the outgoing Editor Melanie Gura good luck and much success as she graduates this May and moves on to bigger and better things!

And of course to all my friends graduating, especially Nick "the M.W.", and to the entire Senior class...best wishes!

A member of the team will truly be missed, but certainly not retired. Oh yeah, we went, and WE WILL CONTINUE TO GO!

P.S.- We NEED new computers, no seriously we NEED them!

As always I love to hear comments, please send them or any questions or suggestions for future columns to JDuce18@hotmail.com

by:
Joel Dusoe

A Need for Improvement

Well, the wait for senior housing is over-with. Everyone knows where he or she will be living next year, and for most of us, I guess it will be Gateway.

The purpose of my article is merely to ask some questions and maybe raise some issues.

There were those few weeks when everyone was anticipating the outcome of the mysterious "Senior Housing Lottery," and now those weeks are over.

The first question that I wish to pose is, does anyone really understand the lottery system?

I found out from personal experience that even if you will be a senior next year, there are no guarantees of living in the new senior housing, which, by the way has a capacity of less than 200 students.

This is puzzling to me because all of the upcoming senior classes are well over 200 in number.

Another thing I learned from personal experience is that, although there is a lottery system which uses numbers to determine who gets first pick of the new townhouses, there is a point where your lottery number is no longer valid, and your place in the "priority levels" is determined by the time that you attempt to pick a place to live.

This potentially means that even if you were ahead of another group, they may be given a place to live before you. Another thing I learned while I was actually with my group of 6 waiting to pick a place, whether it be Evergreen or Gateway, is that you did not actually need 6 to be considered for Evergreen housing.

We learned that if you had 2 or 3, you could pick an entire 6-person apartment to live in. Apparently, the empty rooms would later be filled in.

This was news to my roommates and to one of the members of the Res. Life staff who was working at the infamous senior lottery event.

Basically, I would like to know the reason for building a senior housing complex that has a capacity of less than 200, and most likely houses around 100 seniors after you add in all of the RA's who pick 5 other potential underclassmen to live with them and the large number of returning seniors who will be vacating their apartments half way through the year.

I am also curious about why the other senior housing is located at the complete opposite end of the campus, making it difficult to visit your friends, especially if you do not like parking tickets.

This problem is escalated on weekends, for obvious reasons. Overall, I think the senior housing process can use a substantial amount of improvement.

Just an idea, but maybe somewhere down the road WNEC could have senior housing that houses all of the seniors, or at least have the seniors living a little closer together.

Some people may respond that it is a good idea to talk to Res. Life about housing concerns. Just to clear up any doubts, I did give them a call to ask them a few questions regarding housing arrangements.

After 1 visit to Res. Life, 5 calls, and 1 week later, I finally got the answer to my question.

To sum things up, I think that there is a lot of room for improvement in the housing process and the whole housing situation as well.

Hopefully some of our tuition will be used to fix some of these problems.

by:
Josh White

Ticketing Encourages Drunk Driving

I am a sophomore at Western New England College and I live in Gateway Village.

I went up to the Donuts (Plymouth) to visit my friends. I had parked my car behind Emerson Hall.

I realize that this is a commuter lot but I thought I was safe because of the fact that NO ONE commutes on the weekends.

I had a few drinks and became inebriated along with a number of my fellow classmates. I decided not to drive home because I was under the influence of alcohol.

The result of my decision was a $25 dollar ticket. The lot that I parked in is never full of cars on the weekend (Friday afternoon until Sunday) nor was it even a third filled before or after I received my ticket.

The message that I receive from this was that WNEC Public Safety would rather have me drive drunk and endanger my life as well as the lives of others, rather than leave my car where it was and walk home.

If this is the message my school promotes I am ashamed to say that I attend Western New England College.

However, this ticket does not entirely surprise me. Public Safety seems to have become confused as to what its primary job on campus is.

I was of the understanding that Public Safety was to do just that, provide the public with safety. Instead they have decided to do nothing more than write parking tickets and attempt to eliminate all fun whatsoever on campus.

They are paid (by the students) to protect, and yet all they do is annoy.

Does anyone else wonder why so many freshman transfer away from here after just one semester? I think I know why.

by:
Anonymous

A Senior's Perspective on Departing WNEC

Epiphanies are rare at the end of the year. This is not a season amenable to sublimity, as students fixate on the mundane practicalities of papers and employment.

With minds dulled by burnout and motivation worn away by the attrition of four years, one hardly expects to perceive anything of worth.

Thus I was surprised when gnosis hit me as a trekked across campus one fine morning recently.

I saw something I had been blind to since the first day of Freshman year. I realized what a pretty campus this is.

Remember the first campus orientation tour, when you admired the faux Neo-Georgian architecture, the blossoming cherry trees, the impeccable walkways and landscaping?

For the first semester of Freshman year, this is a really beautiful school. There was a tangible sense of possibility and optimism, the opportunity for social rebirth.

Whoever we were at our previous school we were someone new at WNEC. We had the chance to start with a blank slate again, to build a whole new image and social reputation.

Without social strictures in place, everyone was a potential acquaintance. The Activities Eair displayed a wealth of ways to get involved, and we all signed up for eleven or twelve.

It felt as if a new life began that day, that was ours for the taking. Then, with the gradualness of a summer sky slowly darkening, something changed. Cliques and hierarchies became fixed and frozen.

Work accumulated. Clubs became obligations. Idealized plans for success gently fell apart under the growing burden of labor.

New friendships became bitter as personality conflicts emerged. Dress styles coalesced into the same mass-produced brands.

People began to obscure their unique attributes for social acceptance as the lowest common denominator. Our new heginning proved to he an elusive chimera, and when the illusion faded, college began to look like high school all over again, with the same banalities and drear.

By no means was college all bad, or even unpleasant – to the contrary. But the optimism became more deeply buried. Trodding the same pathways every day caused us to stop looking up at the trees and start looking down at the bricks.

The drive to succeed was replaced by duty and obligation. College went from a novelty to an accepted fact of life.

As Wordsworth wrote, "But yet I know, wher'er I go/ That there hath pass'd a glory away from the earth."

We forget what a delight and privilege the College experience can be. I fell to that nadir in the middle of Junior year.

There was a point when all my work seemed futile. False friends had fallen away. I felt like all the papers and tests were just spinning my wheels, an inefficient time delay before I would get out into the "real world" and pursue my "real goals," whatever they were.

That is why seeing the beauty of this campus was more than an aesthetic revelation. I realized hot much I absolutely love Western New England College.

I fully acknowledged that coming here was the best decision that I have ever made in my young life. Throughout all the frustrating times of my college career, even at times when I felt that I wanted nothing more than to leave, at a deep level I have always cared for this college intensely.

This was exactly the place that I was supposed to be. If it was not for WNEC I might be a vastly different person today.

This College has provided me with experiences unreplicable anywhere else, from traveling to Mayan ruins with an anthropology professor, to having dinner with prominent writers and thinkers who came to speak, to studying under professors who are notable experts in their fields.

I received the kind of personal attention and support that no other institution could provide. This is a school that went out on a limb to take me, I as their youngest matriculant, something I could never repay my gratitude for.

This is a school I can be proud to call myself an alumnus of, a school committed to excellence, concern for the community, and diversity.

There were times when I felt it less vividly than now, but my pride in WNEC never disappeared or wavered.

That is not to say that this school is faultless. In the editorial pages of this newspaper I have been an outspoken and persistent critic of many aspects of this College.

A perusal of back issues finds me upbraiding marketing for spending large sums on billboards instead of improving school facilities; criticizing our curriculum for its under-emphasis on humanities and classics; and repeatedly taking on the lack of labor rights protections for the garment workers who make WNEC merchandise.

I have been questioned as to why I have critiqued so many aspects of my alma mater. Know that these editorials not come from a place of ill will.

I have spilled more than my fair share of ink on the editorial page because I really care about this school and want it to be the best that it can be.

As Shakespeare wrote in Hamlet, "I am cruel only to be kind." WNEC has immeasurable latent potential.

We have the possibility to be a true national-class institution, and the College's prestige will continue to grow. In order to reach that status we need to observe instances when we are not living up to that potential or our values and rectify them.

That is the duty of student media, or any free press, to critique and laud aspects of our community and offer suggestions for improvement.

I would not have dedicated so much time to commenting on this College if it did not mean so much to me.

And this is a wonderful, dynamic place. In four years I still have not met all the personalities or gone to every event.

There are so many amazing things about this school if we only open our eyes to them.

Do not wait until you are a graduating senior to notice and appreciate the colorful, multifaceted and fascinating school that we will always call home.

Farewell WNEC, and thanks for everything.

by:
James Russell

Westerner's Editor Recollects Last Four Years and Bids Farewell

Well kids, it's that time of year again. It's time for final exams, final papers, and, in some cases, final goodbyes.

As a graduating senior, I am sad to say that I will be among the group of people saying goodbye. So I thought that, as a final note, I would reflect on pieces of our last four years here at WNEC.

I think it's safe to say that, as freshmen, we all came in knowing nothing. And let's face it, until we learned all the acronyms, we had no idea what anyone was saying to us.

Rarely, if ever did we get involved in things going on campus because it just wasn't cool. We rarely had homework and if we did, it could usually be done a few minutes before class began.

This was the year we learned that weekends started on Thursday and lasted through Sunday. We figured out that we could go out on school nights and go to class the next morning in what we fell asleep in because we were incapable of getting changed.

In our sophomore year, we all became a little more responsible. We knew a little hit more about college life, but we were still slightly clueless.

We started to get a little more involved, but certainly not enough to be considered uncool.

Coincidentally, that is also the year that we all began to see a little less of our friends because they were also becoming involved.

We discovered Mory's and the beauty of paying five dollars to have guys buy you drinks all night long.

Unfortunately, that is also the year we realized that we don't have to go to every class.

In our junior years, we finally knew the ropes of WNEC but we couldn't try them out because we were all thrown down in Gateway.

This did however offer us the easy access to Mory's and back, even if we weren't sure how we got there.

And of course, who could forget the first time they had a hot dog from the hot dog man at 2 o'clock in the morning?

By now, almost all of us were not only involved in, but ran many clubs and organizations. This was also the year that most

of us turned 21 and learned that it was okay to have a keg on campus.

And if you were an engineer, this was the year that your roommates started to forget what you looked like.

Finally, here it is, senior year, the culmination of four years of pain, smiles, tears, and laughs.

By now, we are all the presidents of our respective clubs and we don't recognize those who aren't.

We barely remember Mory's because Sophia's is the only place we go anymore. We also realized that it is normal to go to bars on any night of the week.

Who were the engineers? No one knows; they're always in the lab. And of course, senioritis has set in and we're lucky if we even make it to classes anymore.

So here it is, time to graduate and after all of this, we're still not sure where the time went.

With the end in sight, I have a few things I would like to say to all of those I am leaving behind.

To my layout boys, what would I ever do without you? If any of you know members of The Westerner's editorial staff, you know why you never see them on Monday and Tuesday nights.

We spend an average of twenty to thirty hours doing layout every other week.

As a side note (to all administration) editorships should be paid positions because we do more work than anyone could ever imagine to put this newspaper together on computers that work only when they feel like it.

But I digress. As stressful as the last year and a half has been, I have loved every minute of it.

So Kevin, Darryl, Eric, Joel, and Ryan, I couldn't have done any of this without you.

You guys make this newspaper what it is. Layout wouldn't be the same if any of you were missing.

As of now, I hand The Westerner over to Ryan and Eric with the knowledge that you will do wonders with it, as always.

And of course, thank you for everything Celia! We would have quit long ago without your support.

Please don't ever leave us again! So boys, it's all yours now, make me proud. GOO!

by:
Melanie Gura
Editor

Golden Bear Scoreboard

Baseball

April 18
V - WNEC 1
H - Endicott 5

April 20
V - Rivier 0, 0
H - WNEC 3, 7

April 22
V - WPI (PPD)
H - WNEC (PPD)

Men's Lacrosse

April 16
V - MA Maritime 6
H - WNEC 23

April 18
V - WNEC 6
H - Union 4

April 20
V - ME Maritime 6
H - WNEC 21

Men's Tennis

April 20
V - WNEC 5
H-Albertus 0

April 21
V - WNEC 1
H - UMASS-Dart 8

Softball

April 18
V - Framingham State 0
H - WNEC 5

April 21
V - WNEC 6, 8
H - Emerson 1, 3

Women's Lacrosse

April 20
V - WNEC 19
H - Salem State 1

April 2
V - [illegible]
H - [illegible]

WNEC Softball Enjoys Record Setting Season

Darryl Konicki
Co-Sports Editor

The Western New England College softball team has had a remarkable season that saw them set records in wins (28) and consecutive wins (23).

During this winning streak the team has only allowed 19 runs and have shutout their opponents 11 times.

There was one game that ended in a 2-2 tie versus Norwich University and had a game against Elms College this past Monday rained out.

Both games could have resulted in wins to add to this seasons record setting totals.

The Golden Bears are in second place in the Great Northeast Atlantic Conference (GNAC).

They trail defending conference champion Pine Manor College, who they lost to by a score of 1-0 in the GNAC semifinals last season.

This year they seem poised to upend Pine Manor to claim the conference crown and a trip to the NCAA tournament.

While Pine Manor didi win both games this season it was during the teams early season struggles.

The team has a balanced attack

of great pitching and hitting that has the Golden Bears at the top of the GNAC standings.

Junior pitcher Marcie Bruder is one of the top pitchers in the conference with a 16-3 record.

Bruder has 16 complete games, 7 shutouts, a 0.97 ERA, 148 strikeouts and has held opposing batters to a .179 batting average.

Freshman pitcher Jackie Shedlock has enjoyed a terrific rookie season on the mound.

Shedlock is 8-0 with a 1.51 ERA and 71 strike-outs.

Freshman pitcher Holly Countinho has also had a successful rookie season with a 4-2 record.

Countinho has a 1.24 ERA and 44 strikeouts.

Both Shedlock and Countinho have 4 complete games and 2 shutouts each. Junior outfielder Ashley Koch leads the team in hitting with a .441 batting average, in hits with 45, and stolen bases with 20.

Koch has also scored a team high 33 runs and has 12 RBI.

Senior second baseman Jeni Pemaa is also enjoying a great season at the plate.

Pemaa is batting .436 with 41 hits, 22 runs scored, 22 RBI, 10 stolen bases and a home run.

Senior outfielder Kate Farry has had a terrific year from the leadoff spot. Farry is batting .372 with 32 hits, 23 runs scored, 8 RBI, and 5 stolen bases.

Junior Joyce Blake has been another heavy contributor at the plate with a .381 batting average with 32 hits, 20 runs scored, 22 RBI and 2 stolen bases. Senior Erin Wolf is batting .342 this season with 25 hits, 12runs scored and 15 RBI.

Junior third baseman Lindsay Gauthier is batting .349 with 29 hits, 19 runs scored, 10 RBI and 2 stolen bases.

The Golden Bears hosted Suffolk University on Tuesday, April 23 at 4 p.m. (before the Westerners release) in the first round of the GNAC tournament.

WNEC shutout Sufflock in the two games they played earlier this season and were looking to maintain that level of success to advance in the GNAC tournament.

The winner of WNEC vs. Suffolk game will advance to the conference semi-finals.

Husband and Wife Coach at WNEC

Kevin Hassett
Co-Sports Editor

Six years ago, John Klepacki and Aimee DeBoyace were seniors at Springfield College, playing in their final season of lacrosse for the Pride.

After a change of careers, some moving around, and a wedding last June, John and Aimee Klepacki are now coaching the Golden Bear lacrosse teams here at Western New England College. How do these two feel about coaching at the same college?

"It's more convenient than us being at different schools," said John. "We are in the same building but we are usually busy and don't see each other."

While the two have now ended up working in the same building, the roads they each took to get here were completely different.

Aimee graduated from SC with the intent of teaching and coaching at the high school level [illegible]

of New York, she started teaching 2nd grade.

Soon later, she decided that teaching was not right for her and went to get her master of science in physical education back at SC.

In 1998, Aimee became the assistant coach for WNEC [illegible]

Klepacki was hired.

John, a member of SC's 1994 Division II National Championship squad, was interested in coaching after college, but thought he might move away from the area down south.

He stayed in the region, however, and was an assistant coach at Oneonta State [illegible]

nationally ranked Pride the past two seasons.

Both coaches have enjoyed success since the moment they started.

Aimee, who also is the head coach of the field hockey team in the fall, reached the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Tournament in her first season as head coach.

This season the team is enjoying unprecedented success on the field.

The Golden Bears finished their regular season undefeated in the New England Women's Lacrosse Alliance (NEWLA) and have an overall record of 13-1.

John, who also is an assistant coach for the football team, is in his first season at WNEC.

A 5-9 team a year ago, the Golden Bears have already improved to 8-4 and have had some impressive wins, most recently against Union College, also in the Golden Bears' [illegible] season.

Klapacki's Bring Family Atmosphere to WNEC

From Husband and Wife, p10

As of press time, both teams were enjoying fabulous winning streaks.

The men's team, led by seniors Bill Locher (32 goals, 15 assists) and Kevin Savage (29 goals, 13 assists), is riding a six-game winning streak.

The women, led by sophomore Shannon Pizzingrilli (42 goals, 19 assists) and junior Christie Pfister (39 goals, 15 assists), have won eight in a row.

Now that Aimee has been here for a few years, she has high expectations for her teams.

"Our short-term goal is to win the conference," said Aimee. "Long-term I would like to bring (both field hockey and lacrosse) to be among the top teams in Division III."

John has been impressed with the way the upperclassmen have accepted the change in direction of the program.

John has his own set of goals for the men's program. His goal for this year is to get a home playoff game.

"We had only had three home games this season so I want one more home game for the seniors," said John.

Eventually John hopes his teams win the Pilgrim League, get an NCAA bid, and become one of the top programs in the Northeast.

Whatever happens the rest of this season, both John and Aimee have been very impressed with their players and the College in this, their first season coaching together at WNEC.

It looks as though the Golden Bears lacrosse program will be in good shape for many years to come with this husband-wife combination at the helm.

2002 Spring Sports Update

Baseball

Record: 23-8 (Home 12-2, Away 5-3, Neutral 6-3)

2002 Great Northeast Atlantic Conference Regular Season Champions.

Accolades

Thomas Allessio
GNAC Player-of-the-Week (March 25, April 1)
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (March 26)

Kraig Feighery
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (April 9)

Kyle Hackney
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (April 16)

Matt Hackney
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (April 16)

Justin McGee
GNAC Rookie-of-the-Week (April 8)

Men's Tennis

Record: 7-5 (Home 2-0, Away 5-2, Neutral 0-2)

Finished the regular season as conference tri-champions.

Accolades

Dan Matis
GNAC Rookie-of-the-Week (Apr. 16)

Mike Raymond
GNAC Player-of-the-Week (Apr. 1, Apr. 8)
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (Apr. 2)

Softball

Record: 28-7-1 (Home 12-1-1, Away 11-3, Neutral 5-3)

Set team records for wins with 28 and for consecutive wins with 23 form April 4 - April 21.

Accolades

Joyce Blake
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (April 9)

June Blake
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (April 9)

Mareie Bruder
Co-GNAC Player-of-the-Week (April 16)
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (April 16)

Ashley Koch
Co-GNAC Player-of-the-Week (April 9)

Jeni Pernaa
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (Mar. 19)
GNAC Player-of-the-Week (Mar. 25)

Jackie Shedlock
GNAC Co-Rookie-of-the-Week (Apr. 16)

Women's Lacrosse

Record: 13-1 (Home 4-1, Away 6-0, Neutral 3-0)

Undefeated in New England Women's Lacrosse League during the regular season.

Accolades

Jamie Carney
NEWLA Defensive Player-of-the-Week (April 8)

Christie Pfister
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (March 26)
NEWLA Player-of-the-Week (April 1)

Shannon Pizzingrilli
NEWLA Rookie-of-the-Week (April 8)
NEWLA Player-of-the-Week (April 15)

Brenna Plutino
WNEC Female Athlete-of-the-Week (April 2)

Men's Lacrosse

Record: 8-4 (Home 2-0, Away 5-4, Neutral 1-0)

Undefeated in regular season conference play.

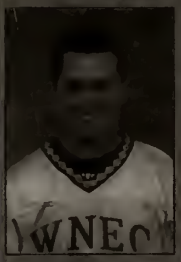
Accolades

Bill Locher
Pilgrim League Player-of-the-Week (Apr. 15)

Alex Naclerio
WNEC Male Athlete-of-the-Week (Mar. 18)

Athletes Of The Week

April 16 & 2



Ryan D

Senio

Men's Lacro

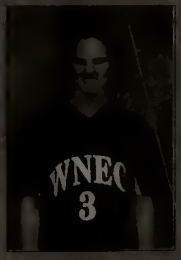
Attacker

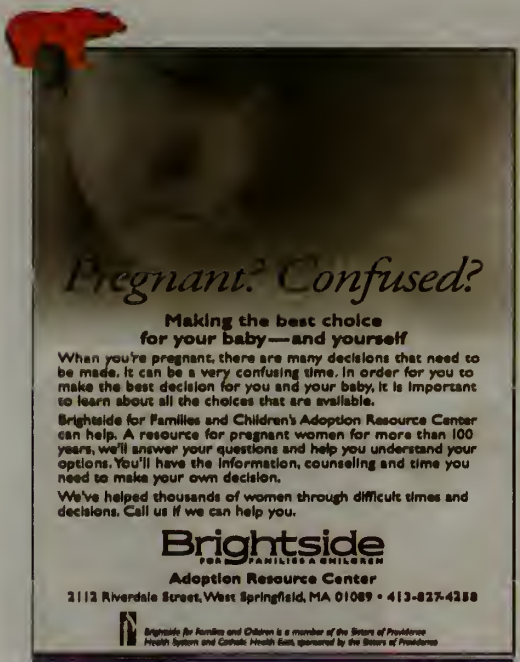
Ashley Koch

Junior

Softbal

Outfiel





Making the best choice for your baby—and yourself

When you're pregnant, there are many decisions that need to be made. It can be a very confusing time. In order for you to make the best decision for you and your baby, it is important to learn about all the choices that are available.

Brightside for Families and Children's Adoption Resource Center can help. A resource for pregnant women for more than 100 years, we'll answer your questions and help you understand your options. You'll have the information, counseling and time you need to make your own decision.

We've helped thousands of women through difficult times and decisions. Call us if we can help you.

Brightside
FOR FAMILIES & CHILDREN

Adoption Resource Center

2112 Riverdale Street, West Springfield, MA 01089 • 413-827-4258

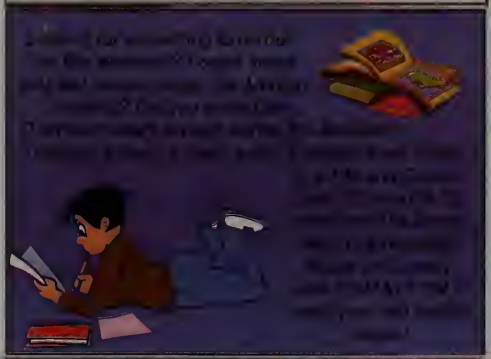
Brightside for Families and Children is a member of the Sisters of Providence Health System and Catholic Health East, sponsored by the Sisters of Providence

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Fraternities - Sororities
Clubs - Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this quarter with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three fundraising event. No sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238 or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.



Spring Concert '02

Wyclef Jean

Tonight!
Thursday, April 25th
8:00 pm, AHLC

$5.00 [illegible]

Bear Market's
$1.00 Sale!
in the AHLC Lobby
during Spring
Concert

Soda, Hot Dogs,
Popcorn, Candy
Bars

Doors Open at [illegible]
Doors Close [illegible]
Ticket [illegible]
at the [illegible]

Lessons That Will Last A Lifetime.

OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

Put your college degree to use by enrolling into the Air Force Officer Training School. Upon successful completion, you will become a commissioned Air Force officer with benefits like – great starting pay, medical and dental care, management and travel opportunities. To discover how high a career in the Air Force can take you, call **1-800-423-USAF**, or visit our website at **www.airforce.com**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Blue Moon
Coffee Roasters

Western New England College Student Publication

The Westerner

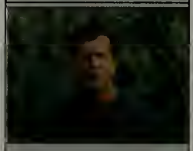
1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 49/Issue 1 • September 20, 2002

In the News...

The Big E Has Commenced in West Springfield

Page 4

Arts & Entertainment



Movie Reviews Show "Signs" as a Winner/ Loser

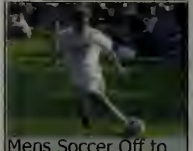
Page 6

Opinion

Safe Ride Program Needed On WNEC Campus

Page 9

Sports



Mens Soccer Off to Record Start This Season

Page 12

Housing Crunch Stuns Res Life

Alicia Morissette
Staff Writer

The boom in population at Western New England College has been a major issue for everyone. However, the specific problem of housing this population has been the main task of Residence Life.

After an interview with Tom Wozniak, the director, many issues were brought to light about what is really going on at WNEC, and what is going to happen at WNEC in the near future. It also provided vital information that everyone needs to know about on-campus housing.

First of all, the rumor is true that there are WNEC students being housed at Bay Path College. Why did Residence Life make this arrangement? Wozniak replied that they "...started thinking outside of the box to give students a place to live". Yet, what may not be known is that all of those young women decided to live there. Also, of the young women who were residing at Bay Path, only two decided to stay there for this semester because they have single rooms. The rest of the students were placed in WNEC housing.

Also, there is good news for those who are living in the study lounges of the LaRiviere Center. Residence Life plans on getting rooms, as soon as possible, for those who are living there.

What needs to be known to the WNEC community is that those who are living in the study lounges opted to live there. In addition, there are also students who are living in a college-owned house behind LaRiviere. The house was previously being used for administrative purposes. These students opted to live on-campus in that situation as well. Obviously, some people rejected the idea and moved on. The main point is that the above-mentioned students were given a choice.

The site for a 233 bed residence hall is being prepared on the old football field.

If the latter statement sounds a little harsh, then the vital information that was mentioned earlier needs to be brought to view. The first issue is that "The college is planning to grow; to increase..." to a community of approximately 2,500 students.

With the addition of this year's freshman class, there are about 2,200 students currently attending WNEC. Therefore, the college had planned to make some changes regarding this increased population. Currently in the works is the new residence hall on the football field, and there are plans for the dining hall to be "reconfigured" (for example, different seating, different tables, and extended hours of operation).

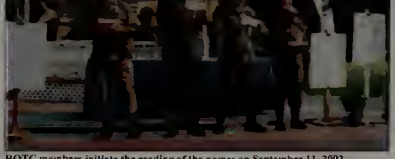
Most importantly, the many housing problems that occurred this year are due to two things: an unexpected number of students who opted (and actually confirmed) that they would live on-campus this year, and the housing confirmation deadline.

Residence Life didn't expect, by looking at the previous years' statistics, that they would receive as many housing confirmation payments throughout the summer as they did. Every person whose payments were received by the deadline were guaranteed housing, and this year 96 percent of the rooms available were filled with these people, leaving only 4 percent of the rooms for those people who didn't meet the deadline. Payments received on the second and third of July were placed in the remaining housing, and this marked the beginning of the "wait list".

Therefore, responsibility for the "housing crunch" can be placed on both the students and the college. WNEC should have built the proper facilities before they decided to increase the school s population, and students should have mailed their housing confirmation payments on time. What is the moral of this story?

If anyone wants to live on-campus next year, they need to heed the advice of Residence Life: mail in housing confimation payments before the July first deadline!

WNEC Community Remembers 9/11



ROTC members initiate the reading of the names on September 11, 2002

Kim Maynard
Staff Writer

On September 11, 2002, the Nation took time to reflect on the events that occurred one year ago. This day will forever be dedicated to the more than 3,000 people who lost their lives at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA. We united together to honor the courage of those who fought and continue to fight to save others, and to celebrate a nation that has banded together in the fight for peace.

The College's remembrance activities began at 8:46 Wednesday morning with the reading of the names of the 2,800 victims at the Gazebo area, by 57 members of the college community. These 57 members included students, faculty, and staff and was started by four members of the ROTC. The ROTC also offered the support of the Color Guard, who could be seen holding the American Flag while standing behind the people reading.

From 9:00 am until 5:00 pm, members of the College community could purchase white carna-

See 9/11, page 2

Class of 2006 Largest Yet with 774 Students

Kara D'Aulizio
Staff Writer

In the early morning of Saturday, August 24 the roads surrounding Western New England College were invaded by hundreds of minivans and SUV's, all with hesitant and curious faces peering out the windows. Thirty-eight perky peer advisors were sprinkled around campus directing traffic and greeting everyone with a smile.

Apprehensive parents carried boxes, stereos and computers up flights of stairs. Resident advisors were anxiously waiting to fill their empty halls and hand out room keys. The Class of 2006 was embarking upon the quaint campus of Western New England College.

It is by far the largest freshman class WNEC has received, with approximately 774 students. Every year the incoming freshman class appears to be getting larger and larger.

Incoming Freshmen participating in SOAR

More high school students are hearing about the college threw different ways. Arley Ewald from Hadley, MA said she thought it was " a nice campus" and heard about WNEC through a college fair. David Martin from Delmar, NY said he heard about WNEC by "word of mouth" from his other students at his high school. Jeff Loomis from Shelton, CT said he grew interested in WNEC through the flyers and brochures sent in the mail.

Freshmen have been facing many new obstacles since arriving. Dormitory life is one big adjustment. However there are not many complaints about the dorms made by freshmen. Ewald, a Windham Hall resident said it is "really nice and well maintained". Dashiell Mortensen from South Windsor, CT and also a Windham Hall resident said it is "chaotic but a nice place to live". Martin, a Hampden Hall resident, agreed it is "nice, but not as good as Windham".

Many freshmen are waiting for the weather to cool down, since the only freshmen hall with air conditioning is Windham. Martin describes Hampden as "hotter than hell" when the temperature rises outside. Most students agree that they "could be bigger".

A college academic schedule is another adjustment to be made by freshmen. Mortensen was accurate in saying that "its not like high school".

Many freshmen pointed out that with no bells in between classes, it is different relying on yourself to get to class on time. The academic feature that seems to attract students to WNEC is the teacher-student ratio.

Martin said there "is more individual attention, the ratio is much better than many other schools". Loomis was optimistic in saying "its a lot of work, its a lot of papers, but its nothing I can't handle".

Another part of freshmen life that aids in the transition and helps make the adjustment smoothly is the peer-advising program. Most freshmen have responded warmly to the idea of having a peer advisor through these initial weeks. A peer advisor is a mentor, a guide, and a source of information. Mortensen likes the "comfortable level since there is closeness in age." "They steer us in the right direction. I was going the wrong way in the beginning, but my PA helped me."

Freshman year is a year of newfound independence, choices, and changes. It is not only a year of academic growth, but a time of personal growth as well. There is a balancing act of maintaining friendships and home and building new relationships here. Like everything else, freshmen year should be lived to the fullest.

STUDENTS' SATURDAY SPECIAL

Buy any FOOTLONG Sub
Get the second Sub for only... 99¢

Driving from WNEC: Follow Breckwood Blvd. to Boston Road, make a right on to Boston Road and follow that until you see Hollywood Video. Subway is on your right in the Raymour Flanigan Plaza.

$1.00 OFF
ANY FOOT LONG SUB
WITH PURCHASE OF A MEDIUM SODA
Not valid with any other offer. Must present coupon.

9/11 Continued...

tions and the place them at the Gazebo near the names of the victims (due to the weather, this was moved into the Mall Area of the Campus Center). At the end of the day, the carnations were brought to area police and fire stations. Located in the Campus Center was a message board where students, faculty and staff could write a note to family and friends of the victims or just in general.

A student remembering 9/11

At 6:30 pm, the Dedication of the Peace Garden took place. Many schools in Western Massachusetts were asked to designate an area on each campus as a meditative place to honor the victims lost that day. The College selected a portion of the developing Leadership Garden (behind Churchill Hall) to plant a trace and place a plaque commemorating the day America's peace and security was attacked. A Candlelight Vigil immediately followed.

It was Chandra Bellamy, a senior on campus, who came forward to put together the events to mark the remembrance of September 11th. This was a student driven initiative. Chandra, along with Maureen Keizer (Director of Student Activities) and Adina Elfant started meeting in August and after they developed a general plan, Jessica Bundgard (AmeriCorps VISTA) and the Campus Ministry Staff (Rabbi Gurland, Sheila Hanifin, and Burress McCombe) joined the meetings for the final planning and implementation.

For such a short period, the changes wrought by September 11th have been immense. It changed the United States more than it changed the rest of the world. It tore away the sense of distance and difference that has enfolded us throughout our history. Now the nation must continue to remember, respect and honor those lost and risked their lives.

Gateway to Disaster: Partiers Beware

Ashley Schofield
Staff Writer

As we embark on another school year with homework, due dates and midterms, another tradition comes to place: weekend partying. It's a well-known fact that college students will most likely come across the dealings of weekend intoxication. But the scary side of this fast growing trend is the seriousness of date rape.

It is said that one out of eight women, at least 2.1 million have been victims of forcible rape. It is evidenced that 1.3 women are raped every minute in the United States.

The hard reality of this is that most sexual assaults that are committed, the victim knows or has prior knowledge of her assailant.

In recent years WNEC has made various attempts to isolate such violent attacks. One very noticeable one is the Rape Aggressive Defense program or RAD. RAD is a class that is offered here and teaches young women how to protect themselves if ever in a situation where sexual assault is present.

The directors are Sgt. James Jerome and Judy Curran. The program has been in effect here since 1995 and has grown popularity in recent years. RAD not only teaches physical methods of defense but also teaches ways to prevent you from getting into a position that might be dangerous.

Public safety is also another tool that has decreased assaults on the campus. A total of eight reported sexual assaults have happened since 1999.

With at least forty security cameras and up to five on duty officers a night, a response to an attack can be dealt with in at least two minutes. Still there are others tactics a woman must do to defend herself when confronted with an attacker. Nine out of ten crimes committed on campus are drug or alcohol related. This is alarming statistic since intoxication can lead to scary consequences.

It is also reported that one out of ten partiers actually have a drinking problem. If you think you have a drinking problem there are counselors on campus that will assist you in a healthier lifestyle.

There is also a twenty-four hour escort service that will take a person who has had way too much to drink to a safe location. And even with the presupposition that you will get in trouble if you have to ask a public safety for help even if youire drunk, they will not write you up. Sgt. Jerome reports that if you ever need a ride do not hesitate to call public safety for help.

There is also another scary trend arising amongst party goers and that is the use of party drugs such as GHB or Rohypnol. Most of us know these by ruffies, mind-Erasers, liquid E, or G. These drugs are silent and invisible, when hidden in a drink they can be completely unnoticeable. They are very potent and can cause memory loss.

People who are tricked into taking these drugs often experience a black out and can wake up eight to twelve hours later and have no recollection of what happened in that time frame. This leaves the user acceptable to sexual activity when they are not even aware what they are doing.

Ways to tell that you have been slipped one of these drugs are: if you feel a lot more intoxicated than your usual response to the amount of alcohol you consumed. If you wake up very hung over, feeling fuzzy, experiencing memory loss or can't account for a period of time. If you remember taking a drink but cannot remember the events that happened afterwards. The most frightening clue is if you feel you had sex with someone but can't remember any or all of the incident.

These side effects are dangerous and should be dealt with immediately. If you feel you have been drugged get to a safe place, get help immediately, ask trusted friends to stay with you and assist you in getting help.

Sgt. Jerome says there three tips to help you have a safe night out. "If one should choose to drink for the night, be sure to do at least two of the following things; drink in moderation, always stay with friends, if you go with a group stay with the group and report any problems, for instance if you might have alcohol poisoning," he relays. Sexual assault is no laughing matter and it should cause awareness around the campus.

If you would like to learn ways to protect yourself you can check out the public safety website at www.wnec.edu/~dps. There you can find people to contact and ways to sign up for the RAD program.

Remember ladies and gents, be aware of your surroundings, don't over do it and always stay with friends because you may never know when you yourself are in a sticky situation.

Homecoming 2002 - An Olympian Event!

Kim Maynard
Staff Writer

Homecoming is a blast from the past, with statements like "That reminds me of the time we..."or "Remember the night we..." being uttered by alumni everywhere. For each of our alumni, there is only a handful of people in the world that these words can be spoken to and Homecoming Weekend is the place to go to hear them and the stories that go along with them. Last year more than 1,000 alumni returned to the Western New England College campus to reunite with some of the best friends they will ever have.

This year, Homecoming Weekend is scheduled for September 20 - 22, 2002. Friday, September 20 starts the excitement of Homecoming with the Opening Ceremonies that includes a Pep Rally and Bonfire starting at 8:00pm. Club WNEC - WNEC's own nightclub for students and alumni will be open at 9:00 pm in Rivers.

The real fun begins on Saturday starting with the Qualifying Booth where everyone can register for all the day's Olympic Activities at the entrance to Supernant Fields from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. From 9:00 am until 10:45 am, the Breakfast of Champions will take place in Dining Room A, where this year s Skookum recipients and the Alumnus of the Year will be honored.

Homecoming football game from years past

Athletic match-ups are a renowned Homecoming tradition and this year's games feature alumni competitions in men's and women's basketball.

Our students will be representing WNEC as the women's field hockey team plays Laselle, the men's soccer team will play Johnson & Wales, the women's volleyball team will be playing both Emerson and Southern Vermont and finally Golden Bears football team will be competing against Fitchburg State.

There will also be Olympic games, face painting, a Sport Management gathering, a Medallists Reunion, and complimentary nachos and sweets. Don't forget to visit the Volunteer Booth to collect your WNEC Olympic pin. There will be the Downes Hall of Fame Induction in Dinner Room A.

Finally, don't miss the hilarious Mark Curry (he made his television debut with "Hanging with Mr. Cooper"), is now making his first appearance at WNEC in Rivers. Tickets for the events will be available in the Mall area of the Campus Center from 11 am to 2 pm or in the office of Student Activities from 8:30 am until 4:30.

Don't miss this year's homecoming with an international Olympic Theme. Come and join the campus community and our alumni as we celebrate Western New England College!

For more information contact Alumni Relations at 782-1400 or the Athletics -Department at 782-1202 or go to www.wnec.edu.

The Westerner

Staff

Ryan DeJong
Editor-in-Chief/ Advertising

Joel Dusoe
Assistant Editor/ Op/Ed Editor

Eric Hanusek
A&E Editor

Darryl Konicki
Sports Editor

Matt Kennison
News Editor

Ashley Schofield
Kim Maynard
Alicia Morissette
Jen Gardner
Kara D'Aulizio
Mike Visconti
Staff Writers

Ashley Schofield
Roving Reporter

Steve Roulier
Staff Advisor

Ryan Hogan
Contributing Writers

The Cupola
Christi Donahue
Cliff Vachon
Athletic Department
The Big E
Dean Zern
Photographs

Westerner staff meetings held every Thursday @ 12:30 in the Publications Office located on the first floor of the Campus Center.

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropnate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Big E Offers BIG Entertainment

Ryan DeJong
Editor-in-Chief

The annual Eastern States Exposition has begun, continuing a New England Tradition since 1917. With over one million people in attendance each year, the fair is one of the most popular attractions in the New England area, drawing visitors from all over the nation as well.

The 175 acres in West Springfield makes The Big E the eighth largest fair in North America.

This year the Big E is full of new surprises and attractions as "We Come Together" (the theme for the 2002 fair). Featuring music and entertainment from big name stars such as City High, B2K, Shaggy, and Regis Philbin to name a few.

Avenue of the States bustling with visitors to the Big E

Along with concerts and shows the Big E hosts a Super Circus, thrill shows, parades, and the Avenue of States.

The Big E is famous for their selection of food and beverages from simple snacks to plentiful dinners. Introduced for this year are the Big E cream puffs and Murphy's Irish Pub in addition to the abundance of international cuisines.

A large part of the New England Autumn Tradition is the agricultural and animal exhibits and competitions. From the tiniest chicks hatching everyday to the grandest Clydesdales in the Northeast, the Big E offers a diverse look at the farming and livestock world today.

The Coliseum holds the North American Six-Horse Hitch Classic Series World Championship Finals and The Big E Draft Horse Challenge, along with equestrian riding shows featuring the finest of horses.

The Big E is honored to host an exhibit called Norman Rockwell Paints America. In cooperation with the Norman Rockwell museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the exhibit holds 322 of his Saturday Evening Post covers as well as "The Four Freedoms," based on Franklin Delano Roosevelt's famous 1941 address.

If shopping is your fancy then the Big E is the place to be. With vendors offering household appliances and electronics to gifts, cosmetics and clothing, even kitchenware, your selections is unlimited.

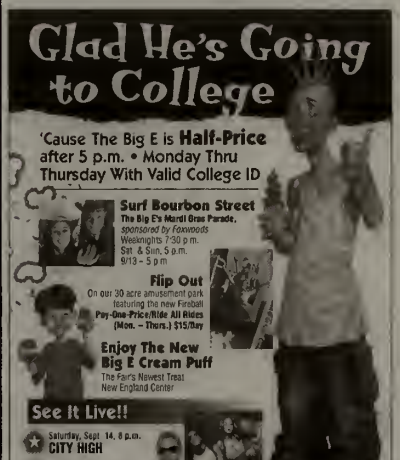
Guests visiting The Big E this year can enjoy the wonderful sounds of the "New England Band Organ." This new musical addition to the Fair was custom built for the Exposition under the direction of Wayne McCary, president of ESE.

The organ contains hundreds of hand crafted wooden pipes, a full complement of percussion instruments and 22-note glockenspiel. Ornate carvings, hand painted scenes of New England and cherubs adorn the instrument which is housed in a custom designed trailer that serves as a stage and band shell.

Don Stinson, of Stinson Band Organs, was present to help debut the organ on Opening Day.

New England's Autumn Tradition, The Big E, will be held September 13-29, 2002 in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

For more information, visit The Big E on the web at www.thebige.com or call 413-737-2443.



A Note from Student Senate

Ryan Hogan
Legislative Chair- Senate

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to Western New England College. I hope everybody had a great summer.

Now that we are back in school, being inundated with homework, tests, and papers, it is easy to overlook the fact that clubs and organizations are trying to get underway. Student Senate is one of those organizations.

Being a part of Senate allows you to represent your constituency by influencing the passage of budgets, which help programming around campus.

Elections will be held on Thursday, September 26th. Election packets have been available for the past week in Student Activities and are due today Friday, September 20th at 4:00pm in Student Activities.

There will be a mandatory meeting for all perspective candidates to discuss election guidelines on Monday, September 23rd.

I strongly encourage all Students to take part in elections on the 26th and vote for the candidate that you think will best represent you.

Student Senate truly is the voice of the student body and your participation on Election Day affirms that as students our voice counts.

Expo a Success

Mika Visconti
Staff Writer

Clubs, organizations, frats, what more could a college student aspiring to get involved in student life ask for? The Student Activities Expo, held on Thursday September 5 from 6-8pm the Rivers Building, was nothing short of a success. From athletes, to actors, to humanitarians, and to those wishing to further their academic studies, there was something for everyone.

The large Rivers Memorial Building was filled with booths in an impressive layout, with members of each club representing their respective organizations. The purpose was for students to visit the booths and sign up for any club that interested them. They then would get important information such as the purpose of the club and when the first meeting would be held. To catch the attention and entice students to their booths, many clubs handed out free memorabilia.

For instance, The American Marketing Association handed out glasses, the Residence Hall Association gave away water bottles, and the Student Senate supplied students with a mini-pennant.

Free trinkets were given out by most organizations, one of the events trademarks. This long-standing event is greatly anticipated every year, as it gives new students the chance to get involved on campus and meet people. It's also beneficial to upperclassmen who want to try new things and expand their arsenal of experience.

In addition to having lots of people and free handouts, there was a DJ on hand providing music, and raffles were held for movies and other prizes. Many Peer Advisors came to the event to guide their advisees to figuring out what they wanted to do. Dean Zem attended as well, talking with faculty, event staff, and students alike. All in all the Student Activities Expo was a very fun time for everyone who participated, and the majority of students came out of it ready to get involved and kick off the year at WNEC.

CLASSIFIEDS

Spring Break 2003 with STS!

Americas #1 Student Tour Operator. Sell Trips, Earn Cash, Travel FREE. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

HELP WANTED

SUBWAY
Boston Road in the Raymour Flannigan Plaza - Call 783-2929 Today!

HELP WANTED

FLORAL WAREHOUSE
20-30 Hrs/wk, $8/hr
Flexible hrs between 7am-4pm, M-F
1.5 miles from Campus.
355 Berkshire Ave.
746-4943 Ask for Dean

Roving Reporter

The Westerner asks...

Do you think we should go to War with Iraq?

"We shouldn't declare war on them."
-Kellen Roberts

"I'm indifferent. If they end up not having any weapons then we'll just be starting more trouble."
-Jessica Harrica

"It depends on what they do. Only if its necessary and it has to be worth it."
-Mark Chalker

"No, because I think there are more peaceful ways to solve problems than war."
-Sarah Cotes

Quote in the Corner...

"Government is not reoson, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, o troublesome servont ond o feorful moster. Never for o moment should it be left to irresponsible oction."

-George Washington

HOROSCOPES

As Seen Through the Crystal Ball of Miss Bella Boobla

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Infatuation is a strange and wondrous thing. Smile and enjoy those butterflies. They won't last forever.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20) You have been neglecting to put yourself first. Caring for others are all well and good but don't forget yourself! You are important.

ARIES (March 21 - April 19) You seem to think the entire world is against you. Have you thought about your actions? If you do, then maybe you can see why things aren't going your way.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) You've been shutting people out as of late. This is hurting both them and you. Take a chance and open up.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20) Hey there big spender? Have you checked the balance of your wallet? Suggestion is to do so. You might really need something and not have the money for it.

CANCER (June 21 - July 21) You know that sinking feeling you have been having? You're right, something is off. It's up to you to find it out.

LEO (July 22 - Aug. 22) Your current job situation looks bleak. Make suggestions to those in charge to make it a better situation for you. Or look into changing jobs.

VIRGO (Aug.23 - Sept. 21) That certain thing that you have been fretting over will be resolved soon. It will have the outcome you want. You earned it.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22) You have found that special thing you want. Just be sure you really want it. A mistake here could have grave consequences.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Do you ever get tired of putting on a act? You have been stretching your acting skills to their limit. No one's buying it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Life seems to be going your way lately. Don't get used to it. There is someone you hurt and they are looking to seek revenge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Take the risk and go for it. Open your mouth and tell it like it is. People should admire you for it.

"Signs": Suspense Truly At It's Best

Ali Martin
Staff Writer

"Signs" is an erie film that revolves around the life of a Pennsylvania farming family. Mel Gibson plays the father of two inquisitive yet quirky children. Joaquin Phoenix plays the father's brother, Marris, a former minor league ball player.

Their seemingly mundane and confusingly sullen existence is interrupted when the children find strange formations in their cornfields.

As many more designs show up in fields around the world, news teams begin to question their meaning. It is then decided that extra-terrestrials are to blame and that the designs are actually coordinates for the alien ships to use for navigating.

The film moves along slowly yet methodically. Interesting bits of information about the family's past are slowly revealed as impending danger inevitably approaches. However, the aliens take a back seat in the story line as the family's troubled past haunts them.

In his typical style, M. Night Shamalan uses inventive camera angles and realistic dialog in this, his second big-budget film after his first blockbuster, "The Sixth Sense". The movie drags in certain places, however the reason for this slow pace is explained by the ending of the film.

A truly intellectual movie enhanced by talented actors, including the youngest of the Culkin clan who plays Gibsons disturbed son, "Signs" is a fine contribution to an ever-growing sci-fi movie legacy.

Grant Ritter
Staff Writer

Rarity in its purest form emerged during this summer blockbuster season: a movie worth watching. M. Night Shyamalan's "Signs" allows the viewer to depart the theatre feeling their money was well spent.

Former reverend Graham Hess (Mel Gibson) awakes to find a mysterious design in his Bucks County PA cornfield. He lives with his brother Merrill (Joaquin Phoenix), son Morgan (Rory Culkin) and daughter Bo (Abigail Breslin).

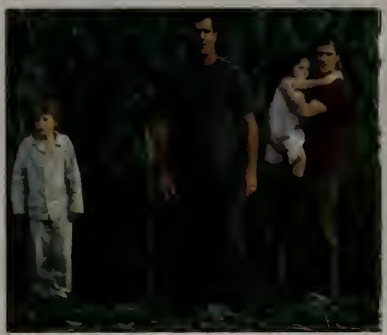
One look at the news on the Hess's TV and they, as well as the audience, learn that these circles are appearing all over the world.

The viewer at this point, much like the Hess family, does not know what to think and is drawn closer to the screen. Shyamalan keeps the audience on edge with extremely suspenseful scenes, enhanced by intense music, still allowing the audience to make their own conclusions.

The audience and characters, are both left guessing about the next second for the full two hours. Each piece of this film seems to have relevance to the next. Shyamalan proves himself the new master of suspense through "Signs".

Gibson delivers a near immaculate performance as a widower who left the priesthood after the death of his wife. Phoenix provides a sometimes-comical supporting role which contrast's Gibson perfectly. The unparalleled acting makes the audience feel as if they are part of the family. When they are scared, nervous, or sad, so is the audience.

Localizing a global alien invasion to one former reverend's family enhances the realism and avoids the clichés of "Independence Day". Walking out of the theatre, the viewers might question what is in the skies, but wont question their decision to see "Signs".



Mel Gibson Comes Across a Mysterious Discovery in the New Movie "Signs"

"One Hour Photo": One Hour Too Long

Ali Martin
Staff Writer

"One Hour Photo" is a psychological thriller that lacks the thrill. Robin Williams, who is uncharacteristically serious in this film, stars as Sy Parrish, a veteran film technician at a SavMore shopping center.

Parrish is very conscientious about his work and boasts that he has the best film developing technique in the state. However, behind his mild mannered persona, Parrish is an obsessive and lonely man who attaches himself to a family he knows only through developing their pictures.

In the grueling two-hour long "One Hour Photo", Parish stalks the Yorkin family, photographing them without their knowledge and even showing up at their son's soccer practice.

While "One Hour Photo" had the potential in its plot to be a true intellectual horror picture, the movie drags very slowly. Though the characters are well developed, the sequences that feature the family interacting seem hollow and foreboding.

Without any frightening moments in the film, except when audience members realize there is still another hour left to sit through, the highlight of the film is the small clip of "The Simpsons".

The ending of "One Hour Photo" will especially leave audiences asking for a refund. In place of a climactic conclusion, "One Hour Photo" preaches the importance of family values.

Even with strong performances from Williams and Neilsen, "One Hour Photo" is not an enjoyable film.

"One Hour Photo" stars Robin Williams, Connie Neilsen of "Gladiator" fame, Michael Vartun, Gary Cole, and Eric La Salle of televisions "ER". Mark Romenek wrote and directed the film while John Wells served as producer.

The Not So Indie Rock Explosion

Eric Hanusek
A&E Editor

A couple of weeks ago, "Rolling Stone" magazine ran a cover story heraldng the "return of rock" featuring Australian rockers, The Vines. The Vines are one of many new faces that have seemingly taken over the mainstream rock scene once controled by cliched rap-rock artists.

If you have tumed your radio on or have tuned into Mtv lately, then you have surely heard of bands such as The Vines, The Hives, The White Stripes, and The Strokes. They all make up a group of one-time indie rock bands that have come out of nowhere to take over the new music scene.

This certainly represents a massive improvement in mainstream music, but the question remains, how can it be indie rock if it is all over Mtv? What got these bands to the place that they currently are is the same thing that got bands such as Blink 182 where they are today: they have all become part of the music industry "machine".

These bands are all relatively "made" bands in that they received their massive media push before the release of their albums. Both The Strokes and The Hives were labeled the saviors of rock before they even released their records.

This is because major label promoters saw the marketability in such artists and saw them as nothing more than dollar signs.

Now this is certainly not saying that this music is bad by any means.

The Hives' record "Veni Vidi Vicious" is truly a great album. It embodies elements of The Clash, The Rolling Stones, and The Ramones, and creates a sound that is unlike anything else out there right now. With their brash lyrics and driving guitar riffs, they have been labeled by some as this generation's Rolling Stones, but this is probably more due to their singer's superb job of mimicing Mick Jagger than anything.

The Vines' record "Highly Evolved" is also a strong record. Where the Hives take after the Stones, the Vines take after Nirvana. Their hit single "Get Free" sounds like something straight off of "Bleach". It even features a few surprising ballads. Although "Highly Evolved" has some uneven moments, it is certainly worth a listen.

The Hives Are a Big Part of the New Rock Scene

Both The White Stripes and The Strokes have also released decent albums within the past year. The problem is that all these bands have been given expectations that no band can possibly live up too.

Bands should not have to constantly be compared to legendary acts such as the Stones and the Clash, but they should be allowed to create their own niche in musical history. None of these bands will be the saviors of rock and roll. As a listener you need to decide for yourself what is the "next great rock band".

There has always been great music, sometimes you just have to look a little deeper than what radio is playing.

Donnie Darko: An Original and Unique Psychological Thriller

Eric Hanusak
A&E Editor

"Donnie Darko" starring Jake Gyllenhall ("Bubble Boy", "Tadpole"), follows the story of a paranoid schizophrenic high school boy who is haunted by visions of a demonic bunny named Frank. Frank leads Donnie down a path of pure anarchy, instructing him to commit destructive acts all across his town.

This "destiny" creates a great conflict in Donnie's life as he finds himself beginning a relationship with a new girl in town played by Jena Malone ("Life As a House").

"Donnie Darko" is One of the Darkest Films of the Year

Donnie also comes to struggle with issues such as time travel, philosophy, and one of the greatest philosophies about the smurfs ever written.

One of the most surprising things about this movie is the cast. Gyllenhall delivers a very solid performance as the troubled teen and more than makes up for the fact that he starred as the "Bubble Boy" in the ill-fated Disney flick.

The supporting cast includes producer Drew Barrymore, Noah Wiley, and Patrick Swayze. Ordinarily a movie starring any one of those three would make me want to gauge my eyes out before the opening credits even began, but for the most part, they all played against their usual typecast and delivered surprisingly good performances. In fact I don't know why someone has not cast Swayze as a child molester before.

The only one of these performances that is not quite right is Barrymore's. Her character seems very out of place and as if her character was just thrown into the script because she is the producer of the film. She also fails to develop her character at all, and it borders on your typical bored Barrymore performance.

The overall visuals and and look of the film suit the story perfectly, as it is very dark and does a strong job of casting a dark shadow over the troubled plot.

The special effects are surprisingly good considering the small budget of the film and the look of Frank is certainly creepy enough to scare small children.

The script is also very well-written as writer/director Steve Kelley delivers a shocking ending that requires more than one viewing to truly understand.

This film is definitely a film for anyone who feels like society needs to be saved, let alone be saved by a paranoid schizophrenic lead by a demonic bunny. It is also gets better and better with every viewing, as the viewer picks up on more little details that they missed the first time around.

For a unique film experience, "Donnie Darko" is well worth the trip to Blockbuster, and definitely worth a purchase for any "film geek".

ADVERTISE IN THE WESTERNER

Advertising with us is easy and affordable! Contact us today for more information!

(413)-782-1580

PEER EDUCATION NETWORK

Meetings Held Every Tuesday @ 4:30 in The Freedman Room, 2nd Floor Campus Center

We are a diverse group of students who promote safe, responsible, and informed decisions about health related issues such as Alcohol, Drugs, and Sex. Stop by a meeting and try us out!

New This Week and Event Calendar

Music

Disturbed- *Believe*
Ani DiFranco- *So Much Shouting, So Much Laughter*
Coldplay- *A Rush of Blood to the Head*
The Muppet Show- *25th Anniversary*

City Stage and City Hall

9/26-28
A Midsummer Night's Dream

10/1-2
Lord of the Dance

Movies

The Banger Sisters
The Four Feathers
Trapped
Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever

DVD

Panic Room
Monsters Inc.
24: Season 1
Count of Monte Cristo
40 Days and 40 Nights
Death to Smoochy

Concert Listings

Date	Band	Venue	City	Time
9/21	Public Enemy	The Palladium	Worcester	8:00pm
9/21	Shadows Fall, From Autumn To Ashes	Middle East	Cambridge	9:00pm
9/22	Jurassic 5	Mt. Holyoke College	South Hadley	8:00pm
9/24	Dillenger Escape Plan, Iscarus Line	The Palladium	Worcester	7:30pm
10/4	Hoobastank	The Roxy	Boston	6:30pm
10/12	Dashboard Confessional	The Palladium	Worcester	7:30pm
10/13	Hot Water Music, Thrice, Coheed and Cambria			8:00pm

For Full Listing of Concert Dates visit www.massconcerts.com

OPINION

Time to Act Against Saddam's Regime

There are periods that arise throughout the course of time where too many become blind to evil, times when the majority may choose not to see, only because it is too difficult to do so.

The lessons of history are almost never free and very often demand the ultimate price: human life. But the knowledge of a hellish present can be used to avert a grim future, founded on the mistakes of the past. Most of the world chose blindness in the 1930s when Germany was swelling and a storm was brewing. Winston Churchill saw the evil that had begun to grow and he saw the evil that was about to change the world forever.

And finally after the tragedy of Pearl Harbor, we the United States responded to the call and saw what must be done for the sake of the civilized world. Today we must lead those who choose blindness to evil in whatever form it may assume, be it terrorism or tyranny.

No one doubts that Saddam Hussein, the destroyer of Iraq, is an evil man, with innocent blood on his hands. But those who agree with that idea will too often dismiss the threat that such a tyrant poses.

To them, he is contained. Tell that to the murdered Iraqi, killed for opining; tell that to the Iraqi child, dying from an infection that could easily be treated but is not because the regime in Iraq chooses enriched uranium over penicillin.

Evil gone unchallenged will grow stronger and more destructive, until the day it chooses to unleash its furry on what will surely be innocent people.

We have just cause. We have the word that so many needed to hear: evidence. The proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) is cause enough and the Iraqi rejection of U.N. inspectors is the evidence.

A M-3 Bradley Tank During the Gulf War

If Saddam and his regime have nothing in terms of WMD to shield from the world, why not let U.N. inspectors into Iraq with unfettered access? It is a simple fact of human nature: that what we wish no one to see, we hide.

The breaches of international Human Rights laws, coupled with Iraq's failure to comply with U.N. resolutions dealing with WMD inspections should dissolve any lingering doubt about what needs to be done.

Why is it that Saddam Hussein is exempt from U.N. sanctions and international law? For years Saddam has been thumbing his nose at the U.N. and the rest of the world. If he fails to admit inspectors, the U.N. must act.

If the U.N. fails to act, the United States must act. However, Iraq is not a battle solely for the United States. Iraq is a battle for the civilized world.

Military action in Iraq is not war-mongering on the part of the United States; it is simply the next logical step in the event Saddam refuses to comply with a U.N. ultimatum demanding the readmitting of U.N. weapons inspectors.

This is not a matter of political ideology but a matter of common sense. No one in America wants to wait around to be hit in the head again like we were on that terrible day in September just over a year ago.

Saddam's failure to comply with U.N. inspections along with his other innumerable infractions are just provocation to act: to issue a U.N. warning to admit inspectors into Iraq or suffer the consequences.

Churchill was the lone voice more than half a century ago proclaiming the truth the world did not want to hear. We are now that voice.

Not France, Russia or even Britain (with the lone exception of Prime Minister Tony Blair) have mustered the gall to face the reality and the threat that Saddam Hussein poses to the civilized world that we are all members of.

The last time the world attempted to appease a ruthless dictator over fifty-million people lost their lives. Many felt that Germany's rearmament and its seizure of the Rhineland were merely benign operations, incapable of leading to any serious global problems, eerily similar to the position many around the world have now taken concerning the global threat of Saddam Hussein and his WMD programs.

Let's not make the same mistake twice.

by: Thomas Skypek, Jr.

Coming to the next issue of The Westerner:

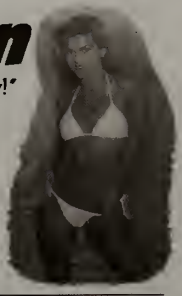
Pearls of Jen Wisdom

By: Jen Gardner

Got a problem? Need some advice? People pay lots of money to get professional advice. Why waste valuable pizza money? I'm totally free! Please send in problems. They can't solve themselves. Email them to pwisdom0@lycos.com or drop them off @ the Westerner office!

Quick Tan

"Where the Sun Shines Everyday!"



20 Minute
Triple Face Bed... $6/session

12 Minute
VHR Quad Facial High Pressure Super Bed... $8/session

9 Minute
Diva Capsule... $11/session

(413)-827-9999 • 628 North Main Street • East Longmeadow, MA

Tanning Packages Available!

10% Student Discount (with student ID)

Full Line of Bronzing and Tanning Products

Directions: About 10 minutes from the WNEC Campus! From WNEC follow Bradley Rd. to end. At traffic light take a right onto Sumner Ave., Take a left at your first Traffic Light onto Harkness Ave., follow to end. (Jiffy Lube on right). Take a right at traffic light onto North Main St. We are 1/4 mile up on left hand side in the Pride Plaza. 628 N. Main St., East Longmeadow.

$5 OFF Any tanning package!
Must present coupon, expires October 20, 2002. Limit one coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offer.

Concert

CORNERSTONE
PROTESTANT MINISTRY
presents

Tree By Leaf

Saturday
September 28
8:00 pm

Bear's Den

Tree By Leaf
folk/country/rock
www.treebyleaf.org

Deuce Says: Shuttle to Downtown Bars Needed

First off I would like to welcome everyone back to what hopefully will be an exciting year.

For those of you that are not freshmen, then you probably remember my columns that I started last year. Entitled "Deuce Says", my columns are about usually anything I want them to be about.

Controversial or not, I say what's on my mind and how I feel, one thing that is for sure I am not afraid to speak freely on issues that I think are important.

My intent however is never to anger any one person or a group of people, rather to create a continuous and free flowing exchange of ideas, discussion and debate. So long as everyone remains tactful, talking about issues and disagreeing on them is ok.

No one should ever be discouraged to express their opinions, even if its from a minority viewpoint. That being said, I hope everyone enjoys reading "Deuce Says" throughout the year and as always I welcome comments, questions and suggestions for future columns.

This issue I wanted to briefly touch upon the topic of the need for the College to provide a shuttle on weekend nights (Thursday-Saturday) to downtown Springfield, in particular to the "Entertainment (Bar/Club) section.

If such a program was implemented, it would undoubtedly be one of the most socially responsible program that WNEC has ever done.

Just a few facts to throw out at you: Traffic crashes are the greatest single cause of death for all ages 6-28, almost half of all crashes are alcohol related; 2.2 million drunk driving accidents each year will victimize 1.3 million innocent people. WNEC has been lucky, in no instance that I know of has a student been killed in a drunk driving accident (at least during the school year), however it is only a matter of when. Do we wait until something tragic happens or is this issue serious enough to be proactive and implement a program now?

Car Involved in Drunk Driving Accident

There are over 650 "safe ride" programs throughout the country at both the college and high school level. The concept is simple and if done right can be very affordable.

While the logistics can be worked out, action on creating such a program needs to start now. As the college is increasing its enforcement on certain policies, more and more students are leaving campus, especially the 21+ crowd.

Bars and clubs are furthering the attraction of students to leave campus by offering 18+ nights, dollar or less draft and drink nights, bands, DJs, and contests to just name a few. So more then ever there is need for a program such as this.

It can be done! It has proven success at schools through out the nation. Schools such as Assumption in Worcester and Marist in New York have some form of a safe rides program.

I'm sure there are those that will say why don't student's just take taxis. While I would definitely rather see someone take a cab then drive drunk, often times they are very inconvenient.

They are only so big, from WNEC to downtown they can be quite expensive, and believe it or not on two separate occasions when a bunch of friends and I called for a cab to go to the bars the driver was drunk or was drinking beers while driving us.

There is every reason to implement a safe rides program and very few, if any, not to. I urge the College administration, Student Senate, faculty/staff, students and anyone else that cares about saving lives and helping to prevent drinking and driving to advocate for a shuttle service to downtown bars and clubs on weekend nights.

The college talks a lot about promoting "alcohol responsibility," here is the perfect opportunity to act!

by:
Joel Dusoe

We Will Always Remember

The night was a somber one. One filled with sorrow and the unbelievable reality that just one year ago we as Americans were faced with a blow of turmoil.

Instead of the usual laughter that filled the sidewalks of the quad, a different tone was set. It all started off with a few people with candles in a circle remembering the anniversary that was to come.

Before long though more mournful freshmen filled the area until over a hundred students gathered together to share a moment of silence. There we remembered those who were lost and those who sacrificed their lives to save those of others.

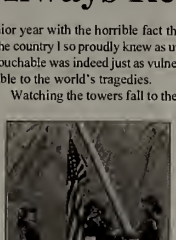
At the stroke of midnight we lit our candles. At one moment a choir of girls began to sing the National Anthem and soon more joined in.

This was not a planned ceremony but yet a common share of emotions that drifted through our hearts. It was as if nothing had to be said and everything just fell into place.

Some raced around making sure everyone had a candle to light as many more showed up. At that moment I felt a strong sense of unity amongst my classmates.

I can remember starting my senior year with the horrible fact that the country I so proudly knew as untouchable was indeed just as vulnerable to the world's tragedies.

Watching the towers fall to their ill fated death was a hard show to grasp. The days and weeks that followed reminded this country of its true beauty.



Firefighters Raise the Flag

However, soon life returned to its usual routine. We graduated and with fate came together as the new class that would someday shape this world.

In all that surrounds our daily lives such a relationships, grades, jobs and what we plan to do that weekend, September 11th reminds us just how lucky we are to enjoy those belongings that we so much take for granted.

Yet it also reminds us that even though we don't always concern ourselves with foreign affairs or news stories we indeed do care. We care about the humanity that surrounds us and do want to make a difference in this world.

A difference that will someday spread not just among our nation but to those countries that still today are trying to obtain freedom that we have had for decades. And with so much technology the world continues to be ignorant of those hardships that others face in their everyday lives.

September 11th is only a bump in our goal to global interdependence. But that night that I shared with my peers I truly felt that we do care and perhaps we don't always have to talk about what needs to be done.

Perhaps we do need to share our feelings and emotions with each other, and not to forget we are still humans who will continue to use this world together.

by:
Ashley Schofield

Welcome Back!

I would like to welcome back the WNEC Community to another exciting year. I would also like to introduce myself. My name is Ryan DeJong and I am the Editor-in-Chief of the 2002-2003 Westerner Student Newspaper.

With this position I hope to work with my staff in bringing the student body a quality source of information, opinion, and entertainment in a modern and relevant publication.

I would also like to encourage the students in the community to write on any issues they see important. The purpose of the opinion section is to relay the voice of the students in written form.

Some guildlines we would like to set for "letters to the editor" would be:

1. No more than 250 words.
2. Submitted by deadline, usually Mondays at 12pm, check with the staff first.
3. Space is not guaranteed and we reserve the right to edit for content and grammar.

The Westerner editorial staff may issue their own opinions in the form of an Editorial. This will be what is important and relevant to the campus community and is the official opinion of the student newspaper.

Students opinions will be considered "Letters to the Editor" unless longer than 250 words. If the article is longer than 250 words it will be classified as an "As I See It" column. The difference is stonger limitations on space, but allows more information and opinons to be expressed.

The Westerner is always looking for motivated staff writers, and photographers. We provide a great opportunity to excel in writing journalistic articles, interviewing, and editing. As an organization we promote educational training for our staff, and plenty of fun!

Advertising with The Westerner is FREE for all WNEC organizations. If you have an event you would like to publicize or post notice of, The Westerner is the place to do it! Stop by our office or contact us by email or phone for more information.

Students can utilize The Westerner for classified advertising as well. If you can't get rid of that old Pontiac that has lost its novelty, don't give up! You never know, it could be another students dream car! Just contact us and we can help you get in touch with the community.

I would also like to invite anyone who has any ideas or information for articles to get a hold of us and let us know! We love to do investigative reporting!

Once again, I am excited about where the newspaper is going this year and to be a part of WNEC's growth. I think we are well on the road to success!

by:
Ryan DeJong
Editor-in-Chief

WNEC to Host Gubernatorial Debates

Darryl Konicki
Sports Editor

On Tuesday, September 24, Western New England College will host the 2002 Gubernatorial debate between Democrat Shannon O'Brien and Republican Mitt Romney.

The debate will be held in Sleith Hall at 7 PM.

O'Brien won the Democratic Primary over Robert Reich, Thomas Birmingham, and Warren Tolman.

The campaign focused heavily on O'Brien's handling of the states pension fund, which has lost over $6 billion during the rescent recession.

O'Brien has vowed to end gridlock on Beacon Hill, restore fiscal responsibility, protect working families and overall move the state in the right direction.

O'brien's running mate will be venture capitalist and public poicy advocate Chris Gabreli.

Romney was unapposed for the Republican ballot.

Kerry Healy won the Republican race for Leutenant Governor, she was endorsed by Romney.

She stated after her victory that "it's time for a new era on Beacon Hill."

When Romney and Healy toured through Springfiled earlier this month they vowed that Western Massachusetts would have a voice on Beacon Hill.

"If you're outside of 1-495 there's a sense that Beacon Hill doesn't listen," Romney said. "We're here to listen"

Romnet said he wants to improve education and create jobs in Western Massachusetts.

Romney is best known for his work on the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee.

"This event is part of Western New England College's ongoing commitment to provide a valuable resource to our students, community, and region," said Dr. Anthony Caprio

"It is important to have a Western Massachusettes venue for the candidates to debate in order that local issues and concers can be expressed."

"Having the gubernatorial debate on campus is something that Western New England College should be proud of," said Joel Dusoe.

"The college has worked hard to ensure that the event runs smoothly and to get as much student participation as possible."

This type of an event clearly shows that the College is growing into a class institution.

This is going to be the first debate between the candidates, which is a rare occurance for Springfield

Western New England College had been working on securing the gubernatorial debate since last fall after it played host to the Springfield Mayoral debate.

"This is wonderful for the College and great for Western Massachusetts," said Barbara Campanella.

"The oppertunity for Western New England College to host such an important debate for the citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in keeping with our fundamental educational mission of providing a forum in which issues and ideas can be fully examined and alalized so that informed decisions can be made."

The debate will be moderated by James Madigan of WGBY-TV.

Faculty, staff, and students of the College will be involved in various roles before and during the event.

Due to limited seating however the event can only be attended by invitation.

Hall of Fame Continued...

record .377 career batting average in four years, including a .414 mark his junior season.

A catcher, he was named to several All-Star teams, including the 1986 All-New England squad.

Fabian also played in the 1986 New England All-Star Game at Fenway Park.

He holds numerous other school records, including career marks for hits (144), runs-batted-in (126), and home runs (24).

Fabian earned his Bachelor of Science degree in computer information systems.

Gary Solomon was a four-time NCAA Division III/NAIA All-American in the 190-lb. weight class and a four-time New England Division III champion at both 177 and 190.

He also was a two-time national academic award winner, a two-year team captain and twice the squad's and New England Division III Tournament MVP.

This past winter Solomon was inducted into the New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NECCWA) Division III Hall of Fame.

A native of Southington, Connecticut, Solomon earned his Bachelor of Science degree in computer information system.

Brian Solomon was a two-time All-America selection after placing second in the 167-lb. weight class at the 1984 NCAA Division III Championship and fifth at 158 pounds at the 1982 NAIA Tournament.

He was twice a New England Division III champion and the 1982 tournament MVP. Solomon also was a three-time team MVP and a national academic award recipient in 1983 and 1984.

A native of Southington, Connecticut, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering.

Ricci is the winningest baseball coach in school history with a 205-174-3 record from 1974-81 and 1983-87.

His teams participated in 10 NAIA Tournaments while winning three District 5 playoffs.

Ricci was twice named NAIA District 5 and Area 8 Coach-of-the-Year, and was a former president of the NAIA Baseball Coaches Association.

Ricci coached numerous All-Stars, including Alan Fabian who also will be inducted into the Downes Athletic Hall of Fame.

A native of Port Chester, New York, Ricci also was the first women's soccer coach in school history compiling a 15-11 record in 1984 and 1985.

He led the Golden Bears to a 12-5 mark and a second place showing in the NAIA Eastern Regional playoffs in only their second year of competition.

Ricci also coached the women's tennis team at Western New England College for two seasons (1978, 1979).

Other Upcoming Events

Homecoming Weekend:

A bonfire pep rally will be held to kick off the weekend on Friday at 8 p.m. on the Tundra.

Saturdays highlights include varsity sports eventsstarting at 10 a.m., reunion gathreings, alumni sports, and the Skookum Awards Breakfast.

There will be family activities sponsored by studcnt clubs and organizations.

Saturday night will feature the fourth annual Downes Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony.

The event will be held at 7 p.m. in the AHLC.

Also on Saturday night in Rivers Memorial Building will be comedian Mark Curry, star of the tv show "Hanging with Mr. Cooper."

Welcome Center Grand Opening:

Tuesday, from 11:30 - 12:15 will mark the official opening of the new Admisions and Welcome Center.

This will be the new home of the Amisions and Continuing Education offices.

The ceremony will feature the Springfield Symphony Orchestra Maestro Kevin Rhodesand WWLP- TV 22 News Anchor Barry Kriger.

The event is free and open the the college community.

Autumn With the Arts:

Tuesday, September 24, at 4:30 p.m. in the Rivers Memorial Building.

The start of the new academic year is celebrated with an afternoon of music, art, dance, and song featuring the talents of some of the College's Trustees, alumni, students, and community members

For more information pick up an edition of "This Week at WNEC."

WASH YOUR OWN CAR!
6 SELF SERVICE BAYS
FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE!
LIBERTY
TOUCHLESS TUNNEL
SELF-SERVE BAYS
Auto Wash
739 Boston Road • Springfield • 783-4333
$1 OFF
BASIC TUNNEL CAR WASH
EXP. 10/31/02
$2 OFF
PRESIDENTIAL TUNNEL PACKAGES
EXP. 10/31/02

SCHEDULE

Men's Soccer

Johnson&Wales @ WNEC
Sat. 9/21 @ 11AM

Worcester @ WNEC
Tues. 9/24 @ 4PM

Springfield @ WNEC
Thurs. 9/26 @ 4PM

S. Vermont @ WNEC
Sat. 9/28 @ 1PM

Field Hockey

Lasell @ WNEC
Sat. 9/21 @ 10AM

Nichols @ WNEC
Sat. 9/28 @ 12PM

Women's Soccer

Emerson @ WNEC
Wed. 9/25 @ 4PM

Williams @ WNEC
Tues. 10/1 @ 4PM

Volleyball

Emerson, Southern Vermont @ WNEC
Sat. 9/21 @ 12PM

Mount Ida @ WNEC
Tues. 9/24 @ 7PM

MCLA @ WNEC
Thurs. 10/3 @ 7PM

Football

Fitchburg @ WNEC
Sat. 9/21 @ 1:30PM

SCOREBOARD

Men's C. C.

9/7
9th @ Amherst Invitational

Football

9/7
WNEC 10 Mount Ida 32
9/14
Westfield 30 WNEC 0

Men's Soccer

8/30
WNEC 0 Babson 0(2OT)
9/6
Elms 1 WNEC 2 (2OT)
9/7
Md'bury 2 WNEC3(2OT)
9/10
Union 0 WNEC 3
9/14
WNEC 8 Emmanuel 0
9/16
WNEC # Western CT #

Field Hockey

9/5
WNEC 1 Fram. 0 (2OT)
9/7
WNEC 2 Spfd. 3 (2OT)
9/8
WNEC 0 West. CT 2
9/10
WNEC 1 Westfield 0
9/14
WNEC 1 Fitchburg 0

Women's Soccer

9/4
Keene 1 WNEC 0 (OT)
9/7
Spfld 0 WNEC 1
9/11
WNEC 1 MCLA 0 (OT)
9/14
WNEC 3 Plymouth 0
9/15
WNEC 0 Plattsburg 2

Women's Tennis

9/14
WNEC 8 St. Joseph 1

Volleyball

9/4
WNEC 1 Bridgeport 3
9/6
WNEC 0 Plymouth 3
9/7
WNEC 3 Pine Maner 0
9/7
WNEC 2 J & W 3
9/10
Westfield 0 WNEC 3
9/13
St. Joseph 0 WNEC 3
9/13
MCLA 1 WNEC 3
9/14
Westfield 0 WNEC 3
9/14
Plymouth 3 WNEC 0

Women's C. C.

9/7
6th @ Amherst Invitational

Field Hockey Looks for Winning Season

Darrly Konicki
Sports Editor

The Western New England College Field Hockey team is off to a 3-2 start for the second consecutive year and are looking for their first winning season since 1987. They have come close in the past three seasons, finishing just 1 game under .500 each year after losses in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) tournament. Fourth-year coach Aimee Klepacki said, "we have several key returning players and a number of exciting freshmen who could contribute to the team's success this fall." The team will be led by senior captains Kara Acken, Heather Gaydos and Brenna Plutino. Acken was the leading scorer on the team last season with 22 points while Gaydos was a close second with 21 points. Both Acken and Gaydos made the NAC All-Star Team in 2001. Two other top scorers who will be returning this year are junior forward Nicole DeRosa and sophomore forward Adrienne Guay, both scored 18 points last season. The Golden Bears opened the 2002 season with a 1-0 overtime win over Framingham State. Freshman Alyssa Katz scored the winning goal with 11:50 remaining in the overtime period. Heather Gaydos had an assist in the play. Goalkeepers Jillian Brown, Casey Sanford and Laura Elder combined to make 7 saves in the shutout effort. The following two games would result in two tough losses for the Golden Bears as they participated in the Springfield College Invitational. The first game was played against cross-town rival Springfield College. WNEC took an early 1-0 lead on a goal by junior Chelsey Perham, but trailed in the second half after Springfield scored twice to open the second half. Less than two minutes later junior Nicole DeRosa would score the tying goal. That sent the game into overtime and penalty strokes where Springfield would eventually earn the 3-2 win. Their next game was a 2-0 loss to Eastern Connecticut State on the consolation game of the SC Invitational. WNEC would rebound, however, winning both of their next two games against Westfield State and Fitchburg State. Alyssa Katz again scored the game-winning goal from Heather Gaydos, this time in double overtime against Westfield. Kristin Pimmental scored the loan goal of the game against Fitchburg with 1:21 remaining in the first half. Jillian brown made a total of 15 saves in the two shutout victories. WNEC's home opener was to have been this past Tuesday against Smith College, but was postponed to October 31 due to the ongoing problems with the new multipurpose athletic field. The teams home opener will be on Saturday, September 21, assuming there are no more problems with the field being ready for play.

Heather Gaydos winds up to take a shot on goal

Downes Hall of Fame to Induct Five New Members

Darryl Konicki
Sports Editor

Five former outstanding student-athletes and a coaching legend will be inducted into the fourth annual Western New England College Downes Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, September 21, during Homecoming Weekend.

Western New England College's Athletic Hall of Fame is named in honor of former professor and present men's golf coach William Arthur (Red) Downes who was among the inaugural group inducted in 1999.

The Class of 2002 features Peter M. Black '87, men's lacrosse; Joy E. Clark '95, women's basketball/soccer; Alan J. Fabian '89, baseball; Brian J. Solomon '84 and his brother Gary J. Solomon '86, both wrestling, and former coach Patrick A. Ricci.

Black, a native of Ridgefield, Connecticut, is fourth on the school's all-time scoring list with 152 points (99 goals, 53 assists).

As a junior, he set school records for points in a season (54) and goals in a game (eight vs. Nichols College).

Black, an attackman, was a four-time Pilgrim League All-Star and an All-New England performer his senior year.

He served as a team captain of the 1987 squad that captured the league tournament title and was a New England East-West Senior All-Star Game selection. Black, a three-time team MVP, earned his bachelor science degree in management.

Clark, a native of Agawam, Massachusetts, ranks among the top women's soccer players in school history.

She was a three-year starter at a sweeper position and a team captain her senior season.

Clark was named to the New England Women's Athletic Conference (NEWAC) All-Star Team.

She also contributed 21 points (8 goals, 5 assists) during her career. In basketball, Clark was a four-year performer at a guard position.

She is third in career three-pointers (80), and fifth in both assists (260) and steals (213). Clark earned a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering.

Fabian, a native of Wilbraham, Massachusetts, compiled a school

See Hall of Fame, page 10

Men's Soccer Off to Record Start

Darryl Konicki
Sports Editor

The Western New England College Men's Soccer team is off to what could be their best start in school history.

The Golden Bears are off to a 4-0-1, their best start in the last twelve years and possibly the best start in school history.

Unfortunately the records are curruntly incomplete, but it is believed in the athletics office that this is the best start for the team in school history.

They are currently ranked 5th in the region in the most recent NCAA New England Division III Poll.

The team will be lead by tri-captains Terrence Leahy, Nate Soucy and Scott Thornton.

Some of the key returning players include All Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) players Jay Martyn and John Schmalberger.

Freshman Mike Schnepp has lead the way in scoring with four goals and three assists in five games and both keepers have been stellar.

Sophomore Dan Bishop is second in scoring with two goals and two assists.

Sophomore Jay Martyn and freshman Brian Grimmick have allowed a total of three goals and have each recorded a shutout in the first five games.

The team opened the season with a 0-0 tie against Babson and have won 4 consecutive games since then.

Kevin Lutter manuvers to get around a defender to set up a shot on goal

The first win of the season came in a 2-1 double overtime victory over Elms College at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, MA.

Freshman Paul Russo opened the scoring in the first half and Elms tied the game in the final minutes of regulation.

The contest was still undecided after the first overtime period and looked to end in a tie until Senior Nate Soucy scored the game-winning goal with 2:36 in the second overtime period.

The team followed that performance with a third consecutive game that would go into double overtime.

The game was tied 2-2 when freshman Matt Battaglia recorded his first colligiate goal with just 36 seconds remaining in the final overtime period.

Sophomore Dan Bishop and freshman Mike Schnepp scored the first two goals for the Golden Bears while freshman keeper Brian Grimmick made 20 saves in the win over Middlebury College.

The Golden Bears haven't allowed a goal since that game.

In the following game against Union College Brian Grimmick recorded his first collegiate shutout, making 11 saves, as WNEC won convincingly 3-0.

It was the first game of the year not to go into overtime.

Mike Schnepp scored twice and sophomore Kevin Lutter added his first goal of the season.

Lutter also assisted on both of the goals scored by Schnepp.

Sophomore keeper Jay Martyn would keep the shutout streak in tact as the Golden Bears rolled over Emmanuel College in the GNAC opener.

Sophomores Trevor Groves and Steve Parastatitidis each scored their first two goals of the season in the 8-0 blowout.

This season the Golden Bears look primed to win the conference and will be looking forward to their final regular season game when they play defending GNAC champion Norwich University.

They also renew their rivalry with Springfield College when they host the Pride on Thursday, September 26.

Athletes Of The Week

September 10, 2002

Senior cross country runner Tom Michaud placed 50th with a time of 29 minutes and 56 seconds to lead the Golden Bears in his first ever collegiate meet.

Freshman Jillian Brown recorded a 94.3 save percentage in a 1-0 win over Framingham State and a 3-2 loss to No. 7 Springfield College

Picture Not Avainable

September 17, 2002

Senior women's soccer captain Molly Burke scored all three goals in a win over Pylmouth State in the Plattsburg Cardinal Classic.

Senior Paul Winkler shot a 159 to place 44thand lead the Golden Bears at the Duke Nelsen Tournament in Middlebury, VT.

(Photos from Athletic Department)

Western New England College Student Newspaper

The Westerner

1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 52• Issue 3 • May 7, 2004

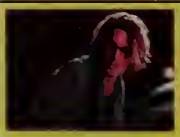
IN THIS ISSUE:

News:

WNEC Business School recognized with AACSB Accredidation
Page 2

105.1 WNEK returns
Page 3

Arts & Entertainment:



Music, movie reviews, summer concert listings
Page 6

Opinion:

Political indecision With less than 6 months until election, do you know who you'll vote for?
Page 7

Sports:

Men's soccer team heads to Europe
Page 11

Women's softball wins GNAC
Page 12

Tuition to be raised 5.7%

D'amour Library to see Addition and Renovation

Curtis Jones
Staff Writer

According to David Kruger, the college's Vice President for Finance and Administration, tuition will be rising across the board by 5.7% for the 2004-2005 academic year.

In a letter sent home to parents, guardians, and bill-payers last month, Mr. Kruger stated that "We maintain the highest standards to offer the best available education here at Western New England College. We try to keep tuition as low as possible in this ever-changing and increasingly complex technological environment."

The letter goes on to say that "In our mission statement, we explain that all students at the college are regarded as a resource in excellence whose special talents and attributes will be challenged by their educational program to assure their success in their professional and personal development and lives. Tuition and fees help in part to pay the costs of fulfilling this mission."

The actual increase in dollar terms is approximately $450 per semester or $900 per year for all returning students.

Tuition for incoming students as well as students who began studies after May 2003 (most freshmen and students who transferred in this year) will be $10,285 per semester ($20,570 for the year) for Arts & Science and Business students, and $10,749 per semester ($21,498 for the year) for Engineering students.

Tuition for students who started before May 2003 have locked in cheaper rates, and will be paying $9,267 per semester ($18,534 per year) for basic tuition.

However, basic tuition does not include items such as fees and room and board charges. The fees are a comprehensive charge of $708 per semester or $1,416 for the year. Room and Board charges reflect upon where you live. In a traditional freshman dorm as well as Commonwealth Hall and the LaRiviere Center, the cost of room and board is $8,524 per year which includes all of your meals.

However, when you move to an apartment such as Gateway or Evergreen, the cost drops drastically because you no longer need to be on the meal plan. A room

Tution Increase continued on Page 2

High Times at WNEC

Curtis Jones
Staff Writer

The great debate over legalization of marijuana.

Should it be legal or illegal? That is the question that was debated in Rivers on April 13th, when C.A.B. sponsored "Heads vs. Feds: The Debate to Legalize Marijuana."

The debaters included former Drug Enforcement Agent (DEA) Robert Stutman as well as editor of High Times magazine Steve Haser.

Each debater was allowed 15 minutes for their opening statements on their side of the topic, as well as 3 minutes for each question asked by the audience, with the other having 3 minutes to state his side of the question.

Steve Haser began the debate with his five reasons why marijuana should be legal.

First, marijuana is good medicine he says. "I know people who can see today, walk today, and live today because they use marijuana. He believes that the only reason marijuana isn't used as a medicine today is because it is not "controlled" by a pharmaceutical company , and does not have a patent so that it can be controlled.

Secondly, Steve says that hemp is good for the environment. "Paper is made of petro-chemicals today since hemp became illegal in 1930, but hemp can be used to make paper instead of deforesting of trees."

The third reason Steve believes marijuana should be legalized is that there are too many people in jail in America today, of which many are there because of drugs.

"Going to jail is a lot worse in the US for you then getting high. There are mandatory minimum sentences for marijuana possession, but there are none for rapists, murderers, and many other heinous crimes. When you go to prison everything is taken from you-job, money, kids and your future is ruined. This is more damage than smoking pot ever could have done."

He believes with marijuana currently being illegal, there are many criminals that disperse the drugs and make profits, which he wishes to stop.

Mr. Stutman starts off his argument by stating that he is very good friends with Mr. Haser but that they disagree on many issues.

The first argument on behalf of keeping marijuana illegal, was that Steve had left out the number one reason why people want marijuana to be legalized-because they want to get high legally.

In response to marijuana being used as medicine, Mr. Stutman said that "No nationally recognized medical association, such as the food and drug administration, has agreed

High Times continued on Page 2

NEWS

WNEC finally achieves AACSB Accreditation

Emily Gralia
Staff Writer

Western New England College became the only private school to be accredited by the AACSB International- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, in Western Massachusetts.

The School of Business joins an elite coalition of 466 AACSB accredited business schools in the world. Students graduating from WNEC's School of Business will achieve accreditation of its bachelor's and master's programs.

Students and professors are equally excited about the new accreditation. Freshman Stefanie Nannen said, "As a business major the resume will now look better after I graduate because of the new accreditation, I am glad that the school was able to achieve such an honor and I am even more excited that I am part of such a high achievement."

The AACSB International made a formal announcement of Western New England's accomplishment at a social congregation in Montreal, in April.

For the students and faculty at WNEC, this accreditation represents the highest achievement for a business school, and now joining UMass-Amherst as the only educational institutes in Western Mass to be AACSB certified.

After a comprehensive multi-year review, members of the AACSB confirm that WNEC has "a commitment to quality and continuous improvement".

The School of Business offers the following majors where the AASCB accreditation will be in effect; Accounting, Computer Information/Science, Finance, General Business, Management, Marketing, and Sports Management. Graduate programs include; Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Accounting, and a combined Juris Doctor/MBA Degree.

As a goal for this college the past 25 years, this accreditation goes to show that success stems from hard work, determination, and a business program that exceeds the expectations of other competing schools.

Tuition Increase continued from Page 1

in Gateway is $5,200 and Evergreen $6,300.

When asked why tuition is being increased, Mr. Kruger stated that the number one reason is because costs are always increasing. "Seventy percent of the budget is personnel, and we must give modest pay increases as well as insurance benefits that have skyrocketed in cost by over 14%. We also must hire new faculty to carry out new program offerings, and also make improvements to the campus for a better quality of life for the students. The school puts aside approximately $2 million per year into capital improvement."

The two biggest campus improvements will be happening this summer, the renovation and extension of D'amour Library as well as a total renovation of the Rock Café and the bottom floor of the campus center.

The D'amour Library will soon be breaking ground on a new multimedia studio that will bring the school into the next generation of technology. The studio, which will be built on the back side of the building, will house a teleconferencing and videoconferencing center, a production and editing suite, as well as a computer lab for all students to use.

D'Amour library will be renovated during the summer

The library will also see many other improvements such as a reconditioned archives area, a new info literacy lab on the third floor, and new "learning clusters" will be set up on the main floor.

"The updates to the library will make it a friendlier and more pleasing environment for the students and faculty," stated Mr. Kruger.

The Rock Café will be completely different when students return in the fall. Walls will be taken down and new seating arrangements will make the Rock appear twice the size it currently is. A central air conditioning and heating unit will also be placed in the campus center.

The College will also be finishing the second phase of improvements to Gateway Village, as an additional 16 units will receive a new build-out to transform them from three person units to four person units.

Rivers Memorial will also be seeing many improvements this summer such as new furniture and fresh paint, and the hope is that the parking lot currently being constructed by the law school will be finished in time for the fall semester, but is currently being held up by the city of Springfield.

"The college is always trying to be as economical as possible when making improvements, but there is no money that is ever wasted," Kruger said.

High Times continued from Page 1

that smoking marijuana is good medicine for anything."

"I agree that there is one chemical in marijuana that is useful for medicinal purposes, but marijuana users want the whole plant to be made legalized, not just that one chemical."

In response to the statement that hemp is good for the environment, Mr. Stutman agrees totally, but wonders why it hasn't been put to use.

"Hemp is as legal in Europe as Steve would like it to be in the US today, and has been for the last thirty years. However, if it is that good, how come most clothes are made out of cotton and paper is still made of trees, and not hemp?"

Mr. Stutman's final reasons for not legalizing marijuana is that marijuana use will lead to more car accidents due to a loss of depth perception, marijuana use interferes with the ability to think, and if marijuana was legalized it would cause more of a dependence on the drug than there already is.

Finally, Mr. Stutman points out that smoking marijuana is more carcinogenic than smoking cigarettes, and there is a greater risk of getting lung cancer from smoking marijuana.

There was no clear-cut winner to the debate, but the crowd cheered to Steve's final statement of "Marijuana makes you eat great, sleep great, and have the best sex of your life, but they want to keep it illegal. Smoking marijuana may not be the best medicine, but you don't have to smoke it-you can make it brownies and drink it in tea!"

The Westerner

Needs Staff Writers for 2004-2005

EMAIL
THEWESTERNER@YAHOO.COM

NEWS

Are students really safe?

Caitlin Cobello
Staff Writer

Public Safety building located near Quad dorms

Like most cities, Springfield holds the dangers of gangs and mobs threatening areas of the city. The WNEC college community exists side by side with an urban center and the campus is widely accessible to the community due to the fact that the entrances are not monitored. How are students to feel secure while walking around campus and know they will remain safe?

The Department of Public Safety at WNEC consists of Chief Gary Barnes, Lieutenant Adam Woodrow, four Sergeants, eight Police Officers and five Community Service Officers.

They boast highly trained and certified police personnel, 24 hour police services along with a security camera system and building access security. Still, even with these technologies, there have been several incidences of crime on campus.

With technologies such as the camera system and building access ID cards why have there been so many cars broken into and suspicious males entered the dorms walking the halls speaking with female residents? According to Public Safety there are many precautions students can take to prevent any further instances.

Officers advise students to not prop open the door when they step out for a cigarette; this could lead to unauthorized visitors entering the dorms. When walking around campus make sure to walk with friends and in well-lit areas and frequently traveled paths.

Have your keys out and ready before you reach your destination whether it is your car or dorm. Be aware of your surroundings and know what to do in case an emergency should occur.

Students often feel the public safety officers are more focused on giving out parking tickets than putting their energy towards solving the recent vehicular breakins.

"Yeah I feel safe around campus. Public safety seems to focus too much of their time on breaking up parties than on keeping everyone safe," says freshman Curt Malahan.

If students ever feel unsafe they can use the blue-light emergency phones and ask public safety for an escort around campus. Programs are run throughout the year educating students of the dangers that exist in our surrounding world and awareness of things you can do to protect yourself.

Welcome back, WNEK

Sarah Parker
Staff Writer

105.1 WNEK returned to the air on March 30, after nearly a year of dormancy.

Renovations to the Campus Center in the summer of 2003 moved WNEC's radio station to Rivers Memorial Building, keeping WNEK off the air until now. But during this time, the station's equipment was upgraded.

Senior Bryan Veith, the station's financial manager, is happy with the results.

"The studio is 10 times better than it was in the other building," he said. "My only complaint is that it took so long to do."

The station is now equipped with new computers, microphones, and soundproofing, and more is to come.

"We're hoping to replace just about everything in the next five years," Veith said.

Veith, who hosts a punk rock show on Mondays from 10 p.m. to midnight, said the DJs at WNEK work with an open format.

"We have a pretty big [music] library," he said. "Most of the music we play is our DJs' own music."

The music played on WNEK includes top 40 hits, alternative, punk, classic rock, metal, and hip hop.

"We play whatever we feel like playing," said sophomore Stephanie Cenicola, who is on the air every Thursday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. with fellow sophomore Evelyn Magararu.

Seniors Steve Pantaleo and Bob Hackenson host a show every Tuesday from 10 p.m. to midnight. During their show they rant about certain aspects of campus life and run contests, but Pantaleo said their goal is to expose listeners to classic rock. "We hope that our goofiness can draw listeners in, so we can expose them to real rock 'n' roll," he said. "If we can open one person's eyes to rock 'n' roll, we've done our job."

There are also talk shows on WNEK. Sophomores Jason Laforge, Ryan Crowe, and Tony Rinaldi host a comedy show on Thursdays from 10 p.m. to midnight, which includes contests, joke commercials, and skits, but much of the humor is spontaneous.

"We've got a few skits and stuff," said Crowe, "but basically we just go in there and wing it."

According to Veith, WNEK's only restrictions on DJs and talk show hosts are vulgarity and profanity.

"We haven't told the DJs to stay away from any subjects," he said.

Pantaleo and Hackenson take advantage of this.

"If you're not gonna be controversial, it's really not worth doing," Pantaleo said. "We say things that we feel a lot of WNEC students are afraid to say."

The challenge is to find listeners. Chance Seymour is a freshman who DJs twice a week at WNEK. He thinks that the radio's frequency doesn't reach far enough beyond campus.

"The way they put their antenna...it only reaches right around this area. If

WNEK radio continued on Page 4

The Westerner

Editor-In-Chief
Jennifer Wroblewski

Assistant Editor
Dan Perlowitz

Copy Editors
Shaina Hotchkiss
Victoria Taylor

Staff Writers
Kenny Arias
Sarah Parker
Jessica Abel
Curtis Jones
Amanda Copeland
Kelly Danielson
Cheryl Henderson
Caitlin Cobello
Evan Heymann
Melissa Hall
Emily Gralia

Contributing Writers
Michael T. DeFilipi

Advisors
Ian Martin
Robert Chipkin

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement, due to space limitations and content.

NEWS

WNEK radio station continued from Page 3

we're gonna do something we want people to hear us," he said.

Students within the range of the radio's antenna may not be listening either.

"I didn't even know they had one," said junior Amber Barry, when asked if she ever listens to WNEC's radio station.

"I haven't listened to it since I was a freshman," said Rose Cheney, a senior.

Sophomore Monica Jeanne thinks WNEK should promote more. "I don't think a lot of my friends are even aware that it exists," she said.

WNEK will be on the air until the end of the semester, so tune in to 105.1 FM and support your campus radio station.

Campus housing smoke-free by 2007

Cheryl Henderson
Staff Writer

By the time today's freshmen graduate in 2007, there will be no smoking allowed in any WNEC residence halls.

In 2002, Tom Wozniak, Dean of Students and Residence Life brought a recommendation to RHA that put into works a policy that would make all residence halls smoke-free. They liked the policy and decided that this freshmen class would be the first to be phased in to the smoking regulations.

In accordance with the Massachusetts Clean Indoor Air Act of 1988, WNEC has established smoking policies on campus.

That means that offices, classrooms, and common areas were the first to become smoke-free. Now the no-smoking regulations are extending to residence halls.

Page five of WNEC's resident student housing agreement states this new housing policy. It says, "in each of the traditional residence halls (Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, Windham, and Commonwealth) are smoke free living environments."

This was the first year smoking was phased out of Freshmen residence halls. By the time the class of 2007 are seniors every housing area will be entirely smoke-free including Gateway and EvergreenVillage.

The smoking regulations came with the freshmen class because it would be a too large of a change to start these new regulations campus-wide.

"Getting smoking out of confined areas such as offices and student housing is a big accomplishment," says Dean Wozniak.

Freshmen have mixed feelings about being the first class to have totally smoke-free housing.

"Changing the smoking regulations with our class is bad because we kind of get shafted," says Neil Amato, a non-smoking freshman. "Especially with Gateway because it's more suite-style living. You can air out apartments.

It was kind of a privilege that went along with the bigger living space."

Freshman Evan Boyer agrees. "We're all adults. When I turned 18 I had the right to smoke. I should be able to smoke whereever I want as long as I'm not bothering anyone."

Dean Wozniak says the regulations are not to stifle the independence of freshmen.

"We want the residence halls to be smoke-free because of safety and health reasons."

Jessica Pines, another freshman at WNEC, thinks that all residence facilities becoming smoke-free is "awesome."

"Not worrying about people smoking indoors is really good. I don't want to smell like cigarette smoke," says Pines.

Smoke-Free Housing continued on page 10.

The Legacy of Kurt Cobain, 10 Years After

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

April 8th, 1994, was a day that silenced a generation. The guitarist and front man of Nirvana, the most successful and influential grunge band of the '90s, was found dead in his Seattle residence. The cause of death, as according to Washington's King County coroners, was in fact a self-inflicted shotgun wound to the head.

Ten years later his music and legacy still breathes life into our society. The song, Smells Like Teen Spirit became the anthem for a generation of loud, distorting garage music, flannel shirts and baggy pants.

He was the messiah of grunge, and the reluctant leader of a musical revelation that swallowed our culture whole. He did not want to be a rock star, simply a musician making music that he wanted, fighting the greed and conformity of corporate America, and the music industry.

"He basically just pissed on the glam-rock from the 80's, and turned the music industry upside down," said Chris Dockendorff, a musician and engineering major at WNEC.

"I'm sure everyone at one time had Nevermind," added Dockendorff, referring to the 1991 Platinum album that sold over 14 million copies worldwide, and sparked 'grunge' fever across the country.

Cobain was found dead with three times the lethal amount of heroin in his system, along with high blood-alcohol levels, and traces of other intoxicants from the autopsy. Coroners determined that Cobain died on April 5th, but was not discovered until an electrician for a Seattle security system found the body three days later.

Questions and controversy arose about the suicide: did his wife Courtney Love hire someone to kill him? Was Kurt able to shoot himself, given the amount of intoxicants in his body? Was the note left next to him really a suicide letter, or was it his explanation for leaving Nirvana?

Suspicions on the last few moments of Kurt Cobain's life are about as blurry as the water that streams over the camera of Nirvana's music video Come As You Are. There are so many speculations and rumors surrounding his death that numerous biographies, novels and feature films have been created to give the public some understanding of what really happened from the viewpoints and perceptions of those who were involved.

Cobain's live performance from a 1993 concert

Millions of mourners flooded city streets, remembering and celebrating the life of Kurt Cobain with shrines containing candles, flowers, pictures, and anything else that appealed to his fans. Courtney Love read Kurt's suicide note aloud to an audience of youth. This was the scene 10 years ago.

For the 10th anniversary of Kurt Cobain's death, on April 8th, hundreds of newspapers across North America featured commemorative essays and articles about the star. MTV had a special interest story, where celebrities and musicians talked about how Cobain influenced them and their careers, along with the broadcasting of their 1993 acoustic performance, "Unplugged" in New York.

Ten years later, we are grateful he breathed Nirvana into our society. We remember Kurt for the person he was, and inspiration he gave.

R.I.P. Kurt Douglas Cobain.
February 20, 1967 –
April 5, 1994.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Eve 6 hits Worcester

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

Left to right: Jon Siebel, Max Collins, and Tony Fagenson

Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Harrington Auditorium housed more than a thousand, emotionally charged students, to see the much anticipated, long-awaited live performance of the band, Eve 6.

The band was supposed to play a show for WPI last semester, but cancelled because of an illness to lead singer and bassists Max Collins. Speculations rose that Collins was in re-hab for minor drug abuse.

After the two warm-up bands, Velvet 9 and Avery, finished their sets, Eve 6 took the stage with dimmed lights and ear-distorting, blaring feedback.

Opening up with the consistent, adrenaline pumping "Amphetamines", the band quickly lured the attention of its mainstream following into their more recognizable songs, "Promise" and "Inside out".

Along with their loud, familiar pop rock licks, lethargic guitar riffs and melodramatic lyrics, lead vocalist Max Collins knows how to rock the crowd.

Strutting confidently around the stage, striking glam-rock star poses in mockery, flossing his teeth with a broken string of Jon Siebel's guitar, and singing his heart out, sparked teen-age angst in the WPI crowd.

Eve 6 is not based on exceptional musical talents, or intricate styles of progression, yet their effective, easily-adaptable sound and chorus-praised lyrics attract a forum of fans ranging from teenagers to young adults.

Between songs, Eve 6's banter with the fans as well as each other showed the audience just how much fun it is for them to play live. Drummer Tony Fagenson repeatedly making fun of Max's rugged and worn-out wardrobe, and the fact he has 'fluffy red hair', adding humor to the show.

The LA based trio started making music in high school, and were signed to RCA records before they graduated. Their 1998 platinum debut, self-titled Eve 6, produced a Billboard Modern Rock no. 1 hit, "Inside Out", and another top-ten hit with "Leech".

"Inside Out" has become Eve 6's signature calling, and a lyrical phrase from the song, "want to put my tender heart in a blender," and the line "Tie me to the bedpost" has become so popular they have printed t-shirts with it emblazoned across the front.

Eve 6 played most of their mainstream hits to please their crowd who came to hear their pop predominance, ending with the famed farewell anthem, "Here's to the Night".

If anyone came just to hear one song, this was certainly it. They played it straight up, like everyone wanted, occasionally letting the crowds do the honors at the chorus, and toasting their crew and fans for another successful show.

Movie Calendar

Kenny Arias
Staff Writer

On The Horizon

King Arthur
The Bourne Supremacy
Catwoman
Resident Evil Apocalypse
The INcredibles
The Ring 2
Ocean`s Twelve
Aliens VS. Predator
Troy

What's new in 2005

Die Hard 4
Dr. Strange
Elecktra
Ghost Rider
[illegible] Four 3
Superman
Batman
Fantastic Four
X-Men 3
Star Wars Episode 3
Indiana Jones 4

Recent Movie Releases

Godzilla
Van Helsing
Shrek 2
The Day After Tomorrow
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
Mindhunters
The Chronicles of Riddick
Garfield
Darkness
Spider-Man 2
Kill Bill Vol. 2

Movie Reviews

Kenny Arias
Staff Writer

"Hellboy"
Starring:
Ron Perlman, John Hurt, Selma Blair, Rupert Evans
Director: Guillermo del Toro

"Hellboy" begins opens like most superhero films do, with the origin of the title character. The movie starts off telling the tale of a baby demon who grows up to be an agent for the FBI Bureau of paranormal Research and Defense. This agency's purpose is: "There are things that go bump in the night- we are the ones that bump back." The villain of the movie is Rasputin (Karel Roden), the resurrected Russian [illegible]list who has made a [illegible] a group of dark gods. In return for everlasting life and great powers, he will open their way to Earth. In order to do so, he must convert Hellboy to his cause, or, at the very least, blackmail him. And Red (as his friends call him) has two weaknesses - his affection for his adopted father and his unvoiced love for Liz. The movie's construction is very well thought out and the director's signature style are abound. This movie could have easily been a Blade or X-Men flick but it stands out on its own. Although Hellboy is a superhero, his character makes the movie entertaining. Seeing his antics and quick one-liners are entertaining and definitely may remind you of the X-men hero, Wolverine. Ron Perlman and Guillermo del Toro succeed at what they hope to achieve with this movie, an action comedy. Hellboy is a good superhero movie, although not as memorable as X-Men or Spiderman, that will entertain and definitely leave you satisfied. 4 out of 5 stars
Rated: PG-13

"The Secret Window"
Starring:
Johnny Depp, Jon Turturro, Maria Bello, Charles S. Dutton, Timothy Hutton
Director: David Koepp

In the midst of a divorce, writers block and the lazy life, Mort Rainey has lost all

Movie Reviews continued on page 6

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Movie Reviews continued from page 5

of his zest for life. He sleeps for 16 hours a day and does not appear to be a successful writer, though he is. Then enter a man named John Shooter who accuses Rainey of plagiarizing his story. This man demands satisfaction and while Rainey tries to explain that he wrote the story before Shooter he has no evidence. The movie stars Johnny Depp in a performance that creates a character of its own. Rainey could have been a straightforward role but Depp makes him an eccentric and vivid character that creates a powerful attraction. The character is blurred because you wonder if Depp is acting or he is really that way. The arrival of Shooter leads Rainey back into the painful world that has caused him to be who he is at the start of the play. Rainey is the classic example of an innocent man who is wrongly accused. The movie almost becomes a straight thriller but it becomes much more than that because it appeals to shock and smart storytelling. The story is in the middle when it comes to King's writing, not the best but not the worst. The movie is a good tale with a great actor and beautiful direction. 3 out of 5 stars
Rated PG-13

"Walking Tall"
Starring:
The Rock, Johnny Knoxville, Neal McDonough
John Beasly, Michael Bowen, Ashley Scott
Director: Kevin Bray

Chris Vaughn has come home. He's a retired U.S. Special Forces soldier who has returned to his hometown to renew old relationships and make a new life for himself. But while Chris was away, his boyhood town wasted away to a dilapidated, crime-ridden shell of itself. This is plot for The Rock's new movie, Walking Tall. The story is based on a real life account but it is not. It is based on a 1973 film of the same name set in a new age and new setting. The plot of the story is not the best, pretty generic for an action movie but that is what you expect to see in a movie with The Rock. The acting in the movie is decent with Johnny Knoxville doing what he does best and The Rock doing what he has done in all of his previous movies. If you want action and The Rock this movie is a no-brainer but if you want something more thought provoking you will have to look elsewhere. 3 out of 5 stars
Rated PG-13

"The Girl Next Door"
Starring:
Elisha Cuthbert, Sung Hi Lee, Emile Hirsch, Nicholas Downs, Timothy Olyphant
Director: Luke Greenfield
Eighteen-year-old Matthew Kidman is a straight A student, an overachiever, and what many would consider a geek. In addition, he has never really fallen in love or fully lived life because of his dedication. This all changed however, when his next door neighbor Danielle moves in and Matthew discovers her. The scene of his discovery and the next few scenes are hilarious and only serve as a precedent for the humor that occurs throughout the movie. The comedic tone of the movie is in the vein of Tom Cruise's Risky Business and completely unlike any of the movies in the American Pie series. This movie is smart and while it may appear to have a predisposed ending it's the process that makes this movie enjoyable. The acting is superb and realistic enough to captivate an audience. The film's only downfall, though very minor for a romantic comedy, is the outcome. Everyone would expect the lead character to have a coming of age experience and thus a happy ending, it happens here. However, even the ending is unique on its own and never drags down the enjoyment of the entire movie. If you want a good time that doesn't involve a big macho man sluggin' it out then you should definitely check this movie out. 4 out of 5 stars

Summer Concert Listings

Date/ time	Band	Venue / Location	City / State
5/07 8:00 pm	Nelly Furtado	Somerville Theatre	Somerville, Ma
5/09 7:30 pm	Jewel	Lowell Memorial Auditorium	Lowell, Ma
5/14 7:30 pm	Genuwine	FleetBoston Pavillion	Boston, Ma
5/15 8:00 pm	Jewel	Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom	Hampton Beach NH
5/19 8:00 pm	Evan & Jaron	Paradise Club	Boston, Ma
5/22 12:00 pm	Kiss Concert '04	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
6/08 7:00 pm	Blink 182 / No Doubt	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
6/18 7:30 pm	Christina Aguileria	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
6/19 8:00 pm	Dido	FleetBoston Pavillion	Boston, Ma
6/23 7:30 pm	Britney Spears	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
6/24 7:00 pm	Aerosmith	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
6/26 7:30 pm	Tim Mcgraw	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
7/02 8:00 pm	Incubus	Dunkin Donuts Center	Providence, RI
7/03 7:30 pm	Incubus	Worcester Centrum Center	Worcester, Ma
7/12 9:00 pm	Ozzfest	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma
8/13 7:30 pm	Sarah Mclachlan	Dunkin Donuts Center	Providence, RI
8/20 7:00 pm	John Mayer	Tweeter Center for te Performing Arts	Mansfield, Ma

OPINION

Character Assasination: Bush Administration

Michael T. DeFilipi
Contributing Writer

As an American citizen, and a responsible voter, I have grown tired of the ridiculous character assassinations practiced time and time again by the Bush Administration. Instead of expressing clear and factual statements of why Americans should consider re-electing President Bush in November, his administration routinely resorts to attacking the character, integrity, and motives of others (namely Bill Clinton, Richard Clarke, and of course John Kerry).

One disturbing allegation by the Bush Administration is how they don't hold George W. Bush accountable for the 9/11 attacks but rather... Bill Clinton? The Bush Administration has stated that the World Trade Center attacks would had never happened if Clinton had "properly handled" Osama bin Laden in 1998.

They have also implied that since Richard Clarke is now associated with Kerry's security advisor, he has deliberately and creatively made up false allegations about Bush's national security efforts prior to 9/11.

Not to mention numerous accusations made by the Bush Administration against Presidential hopeful John Kerry; one of the more recent charges suggests that Kerry is a hypocrite somehow secretly for the outsourcing of jobs because his wife is a wealthy ketchup heiress.

Despite the Bush Administration's claims, throughout Bill Clinton's presidency he was extremely active in protecting against the threat of terrorist groups. Bush representatives say Clinton had not "properly handled" bin Laden in 1998; this is a matter of opinion, at the time Clinton had made a rational decision not to unlawfully shoot missiles into a foreign country without permission. Unlike the Bush Administration, considering international treaties and America's world view, I think this incident was indeed "properly handled". Perhaps if Bush's Administration had "properly handled" intelligence about weapons of mass destruction they would have finished their war on terrorism and Al Qaeda before deterring time, money, and attention to Iraq.

The Bush Administration also suggests that Richard Clarke has purposely set out to sabotage President Bush's campaign. Clarke has recently made public that Bush was fixated on Saddam Hussein before, during, and even after the 9/11 attacks. Furthermore, Clarke exposed the president's lack of concern about terrorism prior to 9/11.

The Bush Administration fully denies these claims and restlessly struggles to demerit Clarke's allegations and character. However, many Americans including myself do not find the former top counterterrorism adviser's statements to be so far fetched; especially after watching most of the 9/11 commission hearings and Condoleezza Rice's deceitful testimony.

Most outrageously, are the Bush Administration's allegations that Senator John Kerry is secretly in favor of outsourcing jobs. A major issue of Kerry's campaign is to keep jobs in the U.S. as well as creating more jobs. It is an outright lie to propose Kerry is pro outsourcing.

More disturbingly, President Bush passed a law allowing foreign immigrants legal passage into the U.S. as along as they have a job awaiting them here. How does this possibly help create more jobs for Americans? Perhaps it just helps create higher employment rates on recent polls?

Unlike the Bush Administration's expertise of publicizing purposely misleading character assassinations, extremely exaggerated perversions, and barefaced lies about anyone who gets in their way... lets take a look at something the Bush Administration rarely ever publicizes... stone cold facts. Let's get a feel for what type of character President Bush really is by strictly stating nothing more than truthful facts:

Under President Bush's reign America has witnessed the largest drop in U.S. stock market history, the highest gas prices in U.S. history, and largest annual deficit in U.S. history. President Bush has broken more international treaties than any prior U.S. President.

George W. Bush also holds the all-time U.S. President record for the most vacation time, including the entire month of August prior to the September 11th attacks.

He is the only U.S. President to order an unprovoked, pre-emptive attack and military occupation of a sovereign nation; he did this against the will of the United Nations, the majority of U.S. citizens, and the world community.

Over 600 Americans have died during the occupation of Iraq and the death toll rises daily.

Despite these facts, and countless others not mentioned, President Bush time and time again resorts to demoralizing others? I believe character assassination is at the heart of the Bush campaign merely because they have no substantial evidence supporting that America is better place since his presidency. In fact all

Bush continued on page 10

WNEC Campus Politically Unaware

Evan Heymann
Staff Writer

In fewer than 8 months, the president of the United States will be elected. Will republican nominee George W. Bush serve another 4 years, or will his democratic opponent John Kerry defeat him?

According to the most recent opinion polls, George W. Bush has a slight edge, but John Kerry has until November 2nd to make up ground.

Both candidates are vying for support using their views and proposals on today's hottest political topics. They include the economy, social security, education, and of course—the war in Iraq.

"I think the way the Bush administration handles the war in Iraq will have a big impact on who wins the election. I think President Bush will be re-elected if things go well in Iraq," said freshmen Tim Larocca.

To get a better idea of the political sentiment of the students at WNEC, a survey was released to 30 freshmen and sophomores.

The majority of the students who completed the survey were not registered to vote, and almost half did not plan on voting in the upcoming presidential election.

Of the students who said they did plan on voting, more than half did not know which party they would be supporting.

Students who said they would be voting for George Bush outnumbered John Kerry supporters almost two to one.

When asked if democrats tend to be more "liberal" or "conservative," more than half did not know the answer.

"The results of the survey don't surprise me. I don't think many young people know or care much about politics, and it's no different on this campus," said freshmen Katie Steimel.

Many organizations are attempting to get young people to vote.

Larger campaigns for this cause include MTV's "Rock the Vote."

Despite these attempts, government sources suggest that the voter turnout for the 18-24 age group will be very low.

"I don't think any of those commercials actually convince young people to get out and vote. I don't even think young people feel like their votes matter at all," said freshmen Mike Madru.

Students 18 years and older across the nation have the right to vote, but most do not express interest in politics.

OPINION

Golf For Your Future

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

It is that time of year again. When spring fever sets in, and winter's snows melts into blooming flowers and buzzing bees. The first signs of spring emerge, and golf season takes its posse by full force.

Once a traditional game played by adults and professionals, the game of golf is a forum of recreational events for corporate America, and the fastest growing sport for youth participants.

"Theres no where else I'd rather be," said Matt Koncelik, avid golf enthusiast and WNEC student. "It's all I can think about on a beautiful day...on the course, chilling out, hitting good shots that bring you back for more. It's addicting."

A test of integrity, skill, and composure, the game of golf is a personal challenge that complements competitive nature with proper golf etiquette.

Today 26 million Americans participate in golfing activities, a significantly low percentage compared to those who play basketball or baseball.

However, these statistics resemble a fraction of the age demographic for college students. Time and money are among the outlying factors that hinder the growth of golf interest for college students.

"I can't wait to get my clubs up here," said sophomore Bill King. "There is nothing better than 18 holes of freedom from my busy engineering schedule."

First brought to the United States at the turn of the 20th century, the game has been revolutionized by landscaping architecture, technology's impact on club design and manufacturing, and the art of the golf swing.

The history of golf is richly filled with tradition, heritage, and great players who have defied the use of modern technology to produce some of the greatest championships ever played.

Once only played by the wealthy in country clubs, the golfers of today's generation are more diversified than ever, creating a melting pot of cultures and influence on the professional level.

Today, golf has numerous touring professionals, playing on the PGA (Professional Golf Association), LPGA (Ladies Professional Golf Association), and the Tour of Champions, Sr. PGA.

WNEC students practice at Veteran's golf course

But what separates the game of golf from other sports is the fact that you can never be too old to play. It's a hobby that sticks with you from when you first grip the club to connecting generations playing the game with your grandkids.

The time is now to learn how to play and be part of a something that you can do as a physical and mental activity, and share with your family and friends.

Golf has become so popular in the corporate world, some business organizations and firms actually ask employees their handicap index on resumes.

Whether you're kicking back on a weekend out on the course, or invited to play from company associates, the game of golf is more than just a sport, it's a lifestyle.

Springfield Commited to Remember

Colleges offer programs to raise awareness of the Holocaust

Kelly Danielson
Staff Writer

The Holocaust is a devastating event, yet important for us to be educating on. Within the last 5 years throughout the greater Springfield area the surrounding colleges have done an awareness program that includes various speakers on all aspects of the truculent episode, that claimed the lives of more than 6 million Jews between 1939-1945.

This year WNEC held The Many Faces of Evil: Legacies and Lessons Reflections on the Holocaust; which happens to be the last year that it will exist.

Rabbi Gurland who is a Professor, as well as the Cultural Liais Coordinate and Lecturer has been a major contributor to this event. He has worked at WNEC for 23 years, and has received the Pynchon Award for recognition of outstanding contribution to the community.

"Major contribution to the educational process at the college and community at large. The responses and attendance have been very good for the most part." Rabbi Gurland had said about the program.

This program had featured five different speakers from all different aspects of the Holocaust.

There was also a film series that featured movies such as The Killing Fields and No Man's Land; there were five films as a whole. A staged reading done by members of the WNEC community that gave voice to the words of child and adult victims; as well as staged readings of poems, memoirs, dairies, and stories written by those who were in the Holocaust was also included.

Lastly, there was a Music and Remembrance night that had featured the traditional music of Eastern Europe in a concert for Holocaust Remembrance Day.

All of these programs were very well done and when walking out of them it left one with a feeling of remorse for what had happened many years ago.

However, it is important that we learn about the lessons of historyt; which is the exact reason that this program has been so influential.

Rabbi Gurland thought the most influential speaker was Dr.Berenbaun.

"He dealt with some of the current issues of the Holocaust with more of the issues than the others did."

If you had missed these speakers and would like to watch them, they are on tape in reserve at the library.

This program has been a great contribution to the education and understanding of the greater Springfield area.

It is important that we do not suppress these awful memories of what had happened, yet embrace them as change.

One must be able to come in countact with the many faces of evil, and take the horrid memories as the past; and be able to change the future and what it may hold.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Chance of a Lifetime

Melissa Hall
Staff Writer

A lot of students dream of studying abroad; however, most are unsure of how to make it a reality. To help students turn the dream into reality, the college hosted a study abroad fair last month.

Over the last decade, studying abroad has greatly increased, in the year 2000 154,000 students from the U.S. studied abroad.

Also, many places are available to study in. Countries like Australia, Ireland, Scotland, France, Japan, Italy, Spain, Chile, and England are only a handful of the countries you can choose from and most schools offer the same majors that are commonly taken here in the states.

At the fair, representatives explained the opportunities to study abroad.

WNEC student gathers information at study abroad fair

"It was really good to have all of my options in one place so I could narrow down my choices better. All the people there were really nice and very helpful to my friends and I. I was able to get a better understanding of where I could go and how much it would cost," said sophomore, Katie McAteer.

However, not every company includes all expenses. Study abroad programs can range in price from $6,000-14,000 per semester; but some companies do not include expenses like airfare and meal plans. Still, two major companies at the fair offered an extensive and complete overall program for students, Center for International Students and International Studies Abroad.

CIS offers seven countries to choose from and ISA offers nine countries. They both offer a comprehensive program that includes airfare and transportation from the airport, a type

Study Abroad
Continued on page 10

Lee says follow your dreams

Curtis Jones
Staff Writer

In a speech that was geared mostly to a younger crowd, filmmaker Spike Lee urged students to choose a career that they love and to follow their dreams.

The event, titled "An Evening With Spike Lee", was held at Symphony Hall in downtown Springfield and sponsored by the Student Senate and Campus Activities Board of Western New England College.

"This is a time to experiment, to find out what it is that you love doing.

I did not say what makes the most money. I pray every night that I do something that I love, and get joy from what I do."

Mr. Lee believes it is hard for kids to find things that they love these days because the media is sending messages to them about values, morals and ethics.

"What is a little black girl going to think of her self worth when she sees half naked black women in music videos on BET and MTV?

These videos project that there are limited options if you're a young black kid. You could be a rapper, a ball player, or a drug dealer."

Mr. Lee also urged that all members of the audience who are of age, to register to vote in this year's upcoming presidential election.

"I'm not going to tell you who to vote for, but more and more Americans are coming back in bags-and they don't want you to see this."

He also offered the opinion that the war is being fought in the media through images instead of truth, that the media dominates the way people in the world think, talk and walk.

"It's not about bombs. It's about Hollywood, McDonald's, Mickey Mouse and hip-hop.

People are now more concerned about who is going to be the next American Idol than about what is really going on."

At the end of the program, Mr. Lee entertained questions from the audience on topics such as heroes and role models, rap music, and also the the war in Iraq.

Student Leaders Honored for Extra Effort in Activities

Curtis Jones
Staff Writer

The annual co-curricular awards were handed out at a ceremony sponsored by the Student Association on Saturday April 24th in Rivers Memorial.

The event is held every year to recognize outstanding student leadership and character here on campus. The award winners are also a large contributor to the quality of life of the students of Western New England College.

All recipients of awards are nominated by peers, and are then selected by the awards committee made up of students and staff. Although all of the recipients knew that they would be receiving an award, none of them knew which award they would receive until they were announced at the ceremony.

At the ceremony, Bryan Fratoni received the Student Life Award, and Tracey Herrington received the Residence Life Award. The Student Association Recognition Award was given to Danielle Smith for her dedication in many different clubs, and the Student Programming Award was given to Allison Segal.

Ethan Hodge accepted the Community Service Award for his active role in Student Senate, and Jamie Chazan was chosen for the Excellence in Media Award for her active role as the editor of the Review of Art and Literature.

The Citation for Community Service was given to sophomore Carissa Scenna for her dedicated leadership to the alternative spring break program, and sophomore Laura Dennison was named the Student Association's Volunteer of the Year.

The Andrew J. Mulcahy Jr. Student Leadership Award was given to Chris Salem, for his role as CAB chair, Editor of the Cupola, member of Student Senate and for being the guy "that always gets things done."

Kristin Messier received the Distinguished Service Award for her many roles on campus such as current CAB chair, senator, former vice-president of United and Mutually Equal, and as one of the founders of the Step Squad. The Parent Association recognized Alan King as their Citizen of the Year for his duties as treasurer of the senior class, as well as involvement in many other clubs and organizations.

The Scholar-Athlete Awards were given to hockey goaltender Michael Newall and to all- time leading lacrosse scorer Shannon Pizzingrilli.

The final award of the night, the Student Association Graduate of the Year, was presented to Clemoterik Phillips by Dean Zern. An emotional Phillips accepted the award graciously after her dedication and hard work for the past four years for organizations such as United and Mutually Equal, Step Squad, and the Office of Diversity.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Peer Advisors see bright beginning

Jessica Abel
Staff Writer

The end of the academic school year brings many new things: warm weather, loads of work, stress, unmotivated students, and also, a boatload of new Peer Advisors.

Craig Sandison, a junior and member of the Peer Advisor Steering Committee described the PA program and some of its rewards.

"When coming from high school to college, the transition can be pretty difficult. There are a lot of new stresses that students are faced with that can be very overwhelming. For the purpose of making this transition easier, Peer Advisors work with a group of about 20 students entering Western New England College for the first time.

This years PA candidates for the 2004-2005 year.

As mentors, Peer Advisors assist their advisees in achieving the highest amount of success at the College. As a resource, they offer advisees information on the College ranging from clubs to degree audits. By promoting personal success for their advisees, Peer Advisors are also able to mature.

The program itself offers a great deal of help to the Advisors in regards to their own maturation as well as representatives of the school. To see a group of people care so much for the College along with a genuine interest in the lives of people they may otherwise not meet has been the most rewarding and amazing thing of my life", said Sandison.

Ted Zern, Dean of Freshmen and Transfer Students, runs the PA program. He puts the PA candidates through extensive training based on three principles: acquisition of knowledge, acquisition of skills, and a perspective on the first year experience. Training begins in the spring semester following spring break and lasts approximately six weeks.

The first part of training consists of classroom instruction, which is then followed by a weekend retreat. Spring training is wrapped up with a competency exam. Further training resumes in the fall at the start of classes. Although Dean Zern has only interviewed the upcoming PA's once, his opinions of the group were very positive.

"They are an academically qualified group. They have presented themselves as persons of character and are truly committed," said Zern.

Peer Advising Candidates for the upcoming 2004-05 year are:

Tracy Balicki, Chris Ballard, Darrell Braggs, Rebecca Brown, Melissa Callahan, David Cardona, Anna Cross, Heather Cross (steering committee), Brian D'Amico, Jodi Dabrowski (steering committee), Maggi Davis, Krystal Dunn, Mark Floramo, Lindsay Guido, Katie Hanscom, Molly Hartshorn, Omojola Hebron, Jenn Laberge, Stephanie Maslich, Matt Mullaney (steering committee), Krista Nevil (steering committeer), Mallory Patten, Jennifer Papa, Laura Perkins, Bryan Plamondon (steering committee), Kellen Roberts, Gina Rosabianca, Craig Sandison (steering committee), Carissa Scenna, Ashley Schofield, Wendy Sekelsky, Elizabeth Smith, Jacque Smith, Lindsay Stewart, Julie Surridge, Teddy Woeppell, and Jennifer Wroblewski.

Study Abroad
Continued from page 9

of pre-departure advising, tuition, room and board, and a type of insurance to ensure the students' study abroad experience is the easiest as possible. CIS even offers three types of scholarships that can aid students to make it affordable.

Students have different reasons to study abroad. "It's something that I have wanted to do for a long time. Just the idea of being able to travel and live in another country sounds exciting. And being a communications major, going abroad would really give me an extra edge when I am trying to find a job," said Laura Manasewich.

Amanda Graff, a WNEC student who is currently studying abroad in London, has good things to say about her experience thus far.

She said, although many people do not do it, studying abroad is a wonderful experience everyone should take advantage of because it helps you to become a better person and you learn much about yourself and life that you never knew. However, making the final decision to go is a very hard one.

"I was hesitant at first, especially coming by myself, but I am really grateful that I made the decision to come," said Amanda Graff.

"When an opportunity like this comes your way, you don't walk away from it," said Dean Zern.

If you missed the study abroad fair but still have interest in it, contact your advisor or Dean Ingham to learn more about this alternative study.

Smoke-Free Housing
Continued from page 3

Pines said she is looking forward to the apartments in Gateway and Evergreen becoming smoke-free.

"I think it's really good that Gateway is becoming smoke-free. People have to live there [smoking residence halls] next year."

While there are smoking regulations in residence halls, there has yet to be any regulations to how far away smokers have to be from the doors of those residence halls.

"There is no way to regulate the outside," says Dean Wozniak.

So while students can't smoke inside, they're free to smoke whereever they want on the outside.

So smokers still have freedoms, just regulated ones.

Bush
Continued from page 7

hard evidence suggests the complete opposite, of course that is unless you are a multi-millionaire.

He continues to make the empty promise that he will create more jobs, improve health care access, and create a better economy. He has had nearly four years to do so and only recently in the mist of an election has he publicly made these issues a concern. He strongly campaigns that America is a safer place because of his war on terror, but do Americans truly believe this? In reality since his presidency there is more world anti-American scrutiny than ever before.

As an American citizen I am outraged by the Bush Administration's continuous lies, irresponsibility, and personal character attacks on anyone who stands in their way.

How many times must this administration resort to attacking the integrity of well established, trusted, and honorable people? I suggest to President Bush and his Administration to take a good long look in a mirror before questioning the character, integrity, and motives of others.

I am concerned President Bush will be re-elected because of his ability to mislead, misinform, and fool the American public with his millions of dollars worth of television ads.

I urge American voters to be skeptical of an administration that routinely, deliberately, and strategically resorts to the character assassination of anyone with disputing views.

I urge all student readers to vote responsibly.

SPORTS

Girls Lacrosse Follow Up

Caitlin Cobello
Staff Writer

This years Western New England College women's lacrosse team started off slow with two of their first three games returning loses. Ever since those two loses it has only been uphill for this team who is currently ranked number one in their conference with a 6-0 conference record and a 10-12 overall record. It has not been a season dominated by one play with 21 of the 22 players having scored a goal. With a team this well-rounded they are bound for a successful end to their season.

After losing six of last years starters the team needed to step up if they hoped to succeed. Two freshmen took this task as theirs. Audrey Kelton received the award of WNEC female athlete-of-the-week for the week of March 30th. In that same week freshman Jessica Vogel was honored as NEWLA rookie-of-the-week. Freshman defenseman, Lauren Archambault, has helped to round out the defense.

Coach Aimee Klepacki remarked on their season saying "We got off to a slow start but things have been going really well. I think the Eastern Connecticut game really helped the team to gel their skills together, we were supposed to be beaten badly and ended up winning 9-8".

The team is gaining respect from many schools in part because of the fact they are ranked number one for ground balls in the NCAA division 3 polls. Individual players that are ranked in the NCAA polls are senior, Shannon Pizzingrilli for points per game, sophomore goalie, Tara Cushman, for goals against average and juniors, Kristin Pimental and Sarah Cunningham, for ground balls.

As the season comes to a close the team is looking forward to continuing to win and advance to the ECAC tournament. Not only is this team strong with talent but it is plain to see when you watch that they are having fun!

Girls Lacrosse team running during practice on the turf

Greatness behind the racquet

Kelly Danielson
Staff Writer

Men's tennis at Western New England College once again shows greatness, not only in their ability on the court; but there sportsmanship off the court as well.

Coach Kolins has been the men's tennis coach for four years now and the advancements that she made in the program are outstanding. By her side you will find Mike Raymond and Tom Michaud; this is Mike's second and unfortunately last year assistant coaching the team, while Tom thankfully still has more left.

Their record thus far has been 7-7; one could say that it isn't as successful as the past, yet once you meet these boys you will eat your own words.

"I love their enthusiasm and support for one another, and even though our record is not as strong as in the past, they use every match, whether win or loose, as a learning experience." Coach Kolins had said about her boys.

Running the team as co-captains are Joe Palombo and Dave Stelmach, who are both juniors since the team does not have any upperclassmen.

"It has been wonderful having such a young team," Coach Kolins had also said.

This team contains depth which is one of a coach's dreams, to have players who "possess a positives attitude, fantastic work ethic and great determination" throughouteverything they do. A dream has come true for Coach Kolins.

"They all live up to the high standards and first class culture of the WNEC athletic department." Coach Kolin's said,
and, we should all feel lucky to go to a Division 3 school that possesses such a caring and hard working athletic staff.

What you will find behind the Golden Bear may not be National Champions, yet the dedication of those National Champions.

All in all the men's tennis team may not have an undefeated record, but it is not always the record that matters.

It is the heart, soul, and compassion for the love of the game that makes this team champions.

International Opportunity

Evan Heymann
Staff Writer

This summer, the men's soccer team will travel to Europe for thirteen days with stays in Holland, Germany, and Italy. In each country, the team will train, play matches against native teams, sightsee, and also have some free time.

"The trip is a tremendous opportunity for the team for several reasons," the team's head coach, Erin Sullivan said.

"It will be good to have the team come together as a group prior to the [fall] season and also to travel through some of the most scenic and historical places in Europe. I'm also very excited because many players on the team haven't been to Europe. In addition, I think it will help our team cohesion heading into the season," Sullivan said.

The team will arrive in Brussels, Belgium, where they will tour the city and stay 4 nights at the Rolduc Monastery.

Next, they will go to Masstricht, Holland, a town built by the Romans more than 2,000 years ago. Also while in Holland, they will watch a professional match and visit the American Cemetery at Margarten.

The next stop will be Koln, Germany, where the team will visit the largest Gothic church in the world and ride a classical steamer down the Rhein River. They will then go to the Mayschoss winery for wine tasting. A game is scheduled for later that evening.

The next phase of the trip takes place in Italy.

After arriving in Pisa, the team will stay in Montecatini for 3 days and see the Leaning Tower, visit Florence, and play a match against an Italian selected team.

They will also visit the Republic of San Marino, Siena and Verona. The last three days of the trip will be spent in Italy, and include a visit to the world famous Mantero Silk Factory, another soccer match, and white water rafting.

"I can't wait to go," said freshmen Scott Rogers.

"[The team] be able to train together and [the trip] will help bring the team together weeks before our opponents have a chance to start playing," said sophomore Scott Meikle."

The players and coach agree that not only will the trip be the experience of a lifetime, but it will also be worthwhile in terms of the team's improvement.

SPORTS

Battle for Bragging Rights

Jessica Abel
Staff Writer

Are you tired of no rivalry existing between WNEC and Springfield College? Then prove it at the 3 on 3 basketball tournament from May 1-2, 2004. This is an all amateur tournament, in which participants cannot have played varsity or junior varsity basketball this past season. It is open to enrolled undergraduate men and women at both Western New England College and Springfield College.

Albert Gelson, Jr., a senior sports management major at WNEC, is the creator of this newly established tournament. Although this is the first year the tournament is being held, Gelson is very optimist about the event.

"I decided to hold the event between WNEC and SC, mainly because there is no identifiable athletic rivalry between the two schools, other than lacrosse. This event provides your everyday student with a chance to compete to defend their school and win some really cool prizes," said Gelson.

On the schools' end, they receive the goodwill of enabling everyone to utilize the facilities and their campuses to host the event. Sponsors recognize that the school is interested in the community. The community will receive all food and sport equipment donations. Also, the schools will hopefully receive some local media coverage.

In addition to the basketball games, Game Zone, which is located next to Hollywood Video on Boston Road, will be holding a video game tournament.

Everyone's a winner: Registration fee guarantees you a tournament tee shirt, at least 2 double elimination tourney games, and coupons from participating sponsors! Compete to win cash, prizes, and coupons from sponsors, exclusive championship tee shirts, and most importantly, the Battle for Springfield Championship trophy.

Also, by donating any sports equipment, you can receive pizza and soda c/o Domino's.

All equipment will be donated to the Springfield School District.

"We are hoping that everyone comes out to support our school on both days, participate in the video game tournament, and donate some food and sports equipment to help out the local community. I already have spoken with teams that are interested in signing up so I am very optimistic about the weekend," added Gelson.

Men's Baseball Built for Success

Cheryl Henderson
Staff Writer

The baseball team is looking good this year. After eight pre- season games in Florida, they're ready for college baseball season to get underway. With almost the full return of his starting line up, Coach LaBranche has a good outlook on the season.

"I'm very optimistic about this year," says LaBranche, "We're as good as any team in our conference and we have a good chance to go to the (Division III) tournament." If the season opener was any indication of how the season was going to go,then there's cause for high hopes.

Opening the new field on March 27, theteam swept a double header against Albertus Magnus College. Coach LaBranche speaks highly of his players.

"This is a pretty selfless team. They are more interested in what's bestfor the team then themselves. It creates better team chemistry."Last year the team was second in their conference and second in the EasternCollegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC).Because there were no seniors on the team, everyone on the starting line-upis coming back.

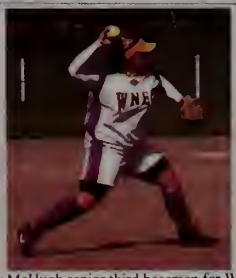
They have two new freshmen to the team: Josh Jacobs who'splaying first base and Tim Warren who plays third base and pitches. This year they have one senior, pitcher Dave Gwozdz. Gwozdz already has three wins this season.

They also have two returning juniors: Matt Hackney, catcher and WNEC athlete of the week for the week of March 15, and Jeff Marutis, center fielder and first team all-conference last year.

Rookie-of-the-year for 2003, Jason Connelly, is returning to his position as pitcher and second baseman.With this line up, WNEC is looking at a great year! With five home games left, there's time for everyone on the campus to go cheer them on.

Champs prevail once again

Kelly Danielson
Staff Writer



Becky McHugh senior third basemen for WNEC

At Western New England College the Women's Softball Team has once again made our school recognized regionally and nationally; and for the second year in a row they have taken the title GNAC champions.

The team is run by Coach Lori Mayhew for the past 8 years; at her side you will find tri-captains (seniors) Becky McHugh and Sara Cavolo, as well as (junior) Michelle Boss.

The tournament turned out to be a sweep by the Golden Bears; "We played very good defense, and we hit the ball very good. We ended up 'mercying' all four teams, which would mean that we won by 8 or more runs in 5 innings each game, instead of 7 innings." Coach Mayhew had said.

Pretty impressive for the big tournament of the year, and even more impressing is the fact that there overall record thus far into the NCAA tournament is 33-9, winning a total of 28 games in a row.

The tournament as a whole one could say went extremely well, and a new WNEC title was set by pitcher Jackie Shedlock as well; who in fact, won all four games while getting her 200th strike out of the year.

Softball may be a sport that is competitively played in the spring, yet that doesn't mean that these girls get to take too much time off.

"I believe this team is successful because of their hard work over the entire season. We play softball in the fall, then have an off season workout program, and then we start our spring season at the end of January." Coach Mayhew had explained.

Beyond the diamond in the dirt this team "is very close on and off the field; they bond very well as a team and as friends, and that's always a big aspect for a winning team." Coach Mayhew had proudly proclaimed.

A winning record, GNAC title, and being nationally recognized are not the only aspects that make these girls victorious; it is also there modesty and friendships with each other that have brought them to this point.

In order to have a captivating team, one needs to have an endearing attitude; win or loose these girls will stand by each others side, and their Coach will not just be telling them what to do, yet act as their mentor as well.

Congratulations to the Girls Softball team for setting an example for all WNEC athletes to follow; your greatness has prevailed once again.

Western New England College Student Newspaper

The Westerner

1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 53• Issue 2 • October 29, 2004

IN THIS ISSUE:

News:

- Page 4 Bush vs Kerry Election preview
- Page 3 What is The Review?

Arts & Entertainment:

- Page 4 Upcoming Concert Listings
- Page 4 Supersize Me: A Fast Food Epidemic

Opinion:

- Page 5 A Letter From the Editor
- Page 6 Bottom of the Totem Pole: A Freshman Forecast

Sports:

- Page 7 WNEC Golf Review
- Page 8 Red Sox Nation

New year, new faces, new attitude on education

Jennifer Hawes
Staff Writer

The new school year has already begun and there are many new student faces as well as faculty to be seen around campus.

Western New England is happy to have accepted fourteen new colleagues to the school staff. A brief introduction and history of these members is seen below. Make sure to introduce yourself and say Hello to all the new faculty members, some of which you may even have already as a Professor.

Dr. Ian Beilin is a visiting assistant professor of History in the School of Arts and Sciences. His main focus is in German history a language in which he is fluent. Dr. Beilin has received the German-American Council Prize for Young Scholars in 1996. Before joining us at Western New England, Dr. Beilin was an adjunct Assistant Professor at Fordham University.

New faculty members pictured on campus grounds

Dr. Jessica Carlson is a visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences. Her areas of research include gender and diversity in the workplace, work motivation, and organizational stress. She has received a Ph.D and an M.A. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology along with a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies from the University of Connecticut, and a B.A. in Psychology and Spanish, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Syracuse.

Mr. Lawrence O'Brien Jr. is a visiting Instructor of English in the School of Arts and Sciences. With over 33 years of high school teaching under his belt, Mr. O'Brien comes to WNEC previously being a High School teacher in Agawam. He has received his Bachelor's degree in English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and has a Master of Education with an English concentration from Westfield state College. Mr. O'Brien is a published poet and editor of Common Ground Review, a Connecticut poetry journal.

Dr. Ali Rafieymehr is an Associate Professor of Computer Science in the School of Arts and Sciences. He has obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics at the College of Mathematics and Economics in Karaj, Iran and received

Faculty Continued Pg 2

Raising awareness for equality in sexuality

Marni Abrams
Contributing Writer

What would you call 10% of Western New England College's population agreeing on an important social issue and publicly expressing their views?

We call it progress. Anyone who has tried to get college students to do something knows the resistance that occurs. This year, with no obstacles, more than 10% of our college campus, a total of 232 people supported the Gay Straight Alliance's Third Annual Coming Out Week Celebration.

Every year the Human Right's Campaign sponsors a National Coming Out Day on October 11th. Because that date is so close to our fall recess, Western New England College has its own way of commemorating the day.

Our school has National Coming Out Week, which this year was from October 13th to October 15th. National Coming Out Day is simply a day when those who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (GLBT) get reassurance that they are not alone, that there are people who support them.

As is in past years, the college's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) had an ally table in the mall area of the campus center. As the literature at the table explained, an ally is simply someone who believes in equal rights and fair treatment for GLBT individuals.

The majority of participants this year 'came out as Straight Allies'. They are people who don't live a GLBT lifestyle but believe that those who do deserve the same treatment as all others.

At the table were pieces of paper that simply stated 'I am an ally' and then had a line for individuals to sign their names. The pieces of paper were the six major colors of the rainbow; the rainbow is a symbol of GLBT pride. Expecting a

GSA continued on page 6

NEWS

2004 Election around the corner

Terrence Edwards
Staff Writer

Both presidential candidates' military records have been a heated issue this year. There have been attacks from both sides trying to damage their opponent's reputation by questioning his actions in the military.

However it's Bush's conduct in the National Guard that has been making headlines. Is there reason to believe that our president went AWOL during his guard duty or is it a clever partisan attack to keep Bush from retaining his seat in the presidency?

The story started in Bush's younger years when he was a new recruit for the Texas Air National Guard. He was reporting for duty between the years of 1968-1973. During this time he put in air time as a pilot.

It was early in the campaign process when there were shouts from the left that Bush never completed his guard duty. It was claimed that he never reported for duty in Alabama and never submitted to a physical as ordered.
These comments were not new; in fact this is only a continuation for the 2000 election. Local paper, The Boston Globe, discovered a document that George

See Debate Page 3

Democrat John Kerry and Republican George W. Bush

New Faculty con't from pg 1

his Master of Science degree in Computer Engineering as well as a Doctor of Science Degree in Computer Science at UMass Lowell. Some of his future plans include offering a free computer course to interested area high school students.

Mr. James McDonald is a visiting instructor of mathematics in the School of Arts and Sciences, a familiar face to some as he is a former adjunct professor here at WNEC. He has received his B.S. in Mathematics at the University of Massachusetts and an M.A. in physics education from AIC. He was previously a professor of mathematics at STCC and a lecturer at Springfield College.

Dr. Joel Southern is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the School of Arts and Sciences. He previously taught Chemistry at STCC and was a Chemistry and Integrated Science Teacher at St. Ignatius College Prep School.

He has received his A.B. in Chemistry from Augustana College, a M.S. degree in Chemistry at the University of Chicago as well as a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry. Southern is also an assistant coach for WNEC's baseball team.

Dr. George Bronson is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice in the School of Arts and Sciences, another familiar face to some as he is a former adjunct and full-time professor here at WNEC. He has received his Ph.D. and B.A. in Sociology from the University of Connecticut and an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Hartford. Bronsonâ€™s focus areas include Correctional Ethics and Professionalism, Correctional Management, Emergency Planning and Implementation, and several more.

Dr. Janis Greve is a Visiting Instructor of English in the School of Arts and Sciences, familiar to the school she was previously an adjunct and full-time professor.

She has received a Ph.D. and also an M.A. in English form the University of Massachusetts and a B.A. in English, with honors, from SUNY Buffalo.

Dr. Denine Northrup is an Associate Professor of Psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences. She has obtained an A.B. in psychology at the University of Michigan, an M.S. in Clinical Psychology at Eastern Michigan University and a Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology at Vanderbilt University. A Professor for my own Abnormal Psychology class I was able to have the opportunity to meet and ask her why she was attracted to the Western New England College?

Dr. Northrup replied, "While I have taught at a variety of campuses, the allure of WNEC was prominent. Students who are motivated and open to new ideas and who remain grounded live and learn in a nurturant college environment where the goal is to support student success. A college that offers the opportunity for faulty and students to work together on practical, meaningful projects that often meet learning objectives as well as benefit the broader community. I'm also looking forward to working with students on how to evaluate programs in our community to see what works well and what could be improved. With the salience of accountability and evidence-based practice, I see these skills as vital."

Ms. Pamela Omer is a visiting Instructor of Mathematics in the School of Arts and Sciences, she is also a previous adjunct with the college. She has a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts and a Masters of Art in Mathematics for Teachers from WNEC.

Dr.Winthrop (Chip) Rhodes is an associate professor and Chair of the English department in the School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Rhodes will take on the traditional duties of the chairperson of the department as well as serves as an associate professor and continue to teach and conduct scholarly work and research.

Dr. Rhodes has received his B.S. in English from Trinity College in 1987 and a Ph.D. in English from SUNY Stony Brook in 1994. He has one book published, â€œStructures of the Jazz Age: Mass Culture, Progressive Education, and Racial Disclosures in American Modernism.

Mr.Sang-Kyu Lee is an Assistant Professor of Accounting in the School of Business. He has received a B.A. in English language and literature at Seoul National University and has also obtained his M.A. in economics at Yonsei University in Seoul and an MBA with a concentration in accounting and finance from Boston University.

Mr. Lee's areas of teaching and research interests include financial and managerial accounting and valuation among others.

Dr. Molly Munkatchy is an Assistant Professor of Education in the School of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Munkatchy has 32 years of experiences as an elementary education teacher; math and science and technology manager; and director of rural schools for the NSF mathematics and science partnership.

She has received a B.S. in elementary education as well as an M. Ed. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Texas at El Paso and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at New Mexico State University.

This concludes our new faculty for the Fall 2004 school year.

I wish all new and continuing faculty and staff a successful year! For further information regarding new faculty log on to www.wnec.edu/news, thanks also to Steve Roulier for the staff information

The Westerner

Needs Staff Writers for 2004-2005

EMAIL
THEWESTERNERSNOW@YAHOO.COM

Or...Attend a meeting Wed. 11:00am R103

Review This

Jamie Chazan
Contributing Writer

The Review is the campus art and literature magazine, published and distributed each year in April, with no cost to students beyond what they've already paid in activities fees.

The Review of Art and Literature is made up of submissions of poetry, prose, and all forms of artwork from students, who want to work on the Review because they are interested in art, literature, and publishing, staying up late and eating pizza while staff consider submissions without knowing who's written what.

Material is accepted based on its creativity and originality, as well as the skill it shows.

The call for submissions is sent out in September, and the staff has until February to make final choices, but to encourage creativity n campus throughout the eyar, The Review hosts Open Mic nights.

The Open Mics are a live showcase for writers and musicians on campus, or for people who simly want to listen and enjoy the atomosphere. Free food and drinks (usually coffee and soda) are served.

Review meetings are on Tuesdays at 1.00 pm in Rivers 107. Make sure you get the right 107; there are two in Rivers, which makes finding the right one a bit more challenging.

For more information on submissions or becoming a staff member of The Review, please contact Jamie Chazan at x 1581 or email theReviewofAL@hotmail.com.

Debate Continued from Pg 2

W. Bush was nowhere to be found on May 1972 for an evaluation. It has also been claimed that he failed to show for a physical and even disregarded orders from an officer. These comments have never been brought to rest, so it seems only natural that the democrats would have picked up where they left off.

The difference between the election of 2004 and 2000 is we currently have our military occupied in Iraq and people are paying a lot more attention. Past military experience seems to be valuable knowledge for today. It also greatly damages Bush's character to catch him in a lie, not to mention he used his status to keep himself from taking duty in the National Guard.

Early in February 2004, the White House immediately responded by releasing his payroll records. There argue that Bush never could have received his payroll if he did not report for duty. However questions still remained because of his lack of an evaluation of that particular year. The documents show that he did have a lot of time off during that year because he was working on a senate campaign that year, however he does have points for that month. The White House contended that Bush was honorably discharged and attended business school at Harvard College.

As time went on the issue slowly died down and it was not such a heated topic of discussion and was replaced with new attacks and arguments. It wasn't until just recently, September 8th when news reporter Dan Rather reported on the program 60 minutes that there were new documents proving his defiance on duty. On the program Rather went to extensive lengths to prove the authenticity of the memos.

It was the very next day when it was reported by competing news programs that they documents were false. It's been claimed that these forgeries were done on a Word processor; the same program every college student has been using to write their own papers. It's been said that it would be impossible for these documents to exist back in 1972.

There were arguments that key items such as subscripts were unavailable at the time and the memos are therefore forged documents. The White House continues to hold its stance that the president completed his duty, just as any other patriotic American would. They argue that it is only attack from the Democratic Party in order to damage his reputation.

Kerry has yet to comment on the situation saying; he will only question his methods as a leader, and will not participate on an attack on his past. Kerry's stance as a Vietnam Veteran has been a large part of his campaign for the presidency.

This close the election this controversy could he incredibly damaging. However it is much too early to count him out yet. Bush is still ahead in the polls slightly and there is still no refutable proof that he did not complete his duties in the National Guard.

The Westerner

Editor-In-Chief
Jennifer Wroblewski

Assistant Editor
Dan Perlowitz

News Editor
Curtis Jones

Staff Writers
Ryan Kravontka
Robert Cunningham
Terrence Edwards
Jennifer Hawes
Jonathan O'Hara

Contributing Writers
Patrick Belmonte
Jamie Chazan
Alicia Simoes
Jonathan O'Hara
Marni Abrams

Advisors
Ian Martin
Robert Chipkin

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement, due to space limitations and content.

Happy Halloween!!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Film Review: Supersize Me: Fast Food Nation

Alicia Simoes
Contributing Writer

Many people never think twice about rolling up to a fast food joint and ordering their dinner via a speaker box. However, there is a new documentary film that is changing the way many Americans view fast food and it's nutritional value.

The documentary film, "Super Size Me" stars, is directed and produced by award winning film maker, Morgan Spurlock. This is his first feature film and it has already snatched up 27 awards including "Best Director" for the 2004 Sundance Film Festival and

MTV > News: Docs: prize at the Full Frame Film Festival of 2004.

This insightful film is a peek into Spurlock's life for one month as he tests his body's ability to eat only McDonald's fast food. That's right: only McDonald's for an entire month!

The film documented Spurlock's journey from a healthy and very physically fit citizen to a sick and unhealthy addict of McDonald's food. His goal was to show America that our dependency on these fast food chains is an unhealthy, and possibly even deadly, habit. With a few simple rules and the guidance of three physicians and one nutritionist, Spurlock was on his way to making a rather large and in charge point.

Throughout the film, audiences are bombarded with facts and statistics on fast food and the obesity epidemic in America mixed with clips following Spurlock's condition during his experimental diet.

Despite doctor's warnings and his nutritionist's concerns, Spurlock continues his dangerous eating habits for a solid 28 days. In the end, some amazing and very shocking results are produced.

Morgan Spurlock and his team intended to use this film as an eye opener to the health issues that fast food is creating in this country. After viewing the documentary myself, I fell they have accomplished what they have set out to achieve.

I recommend that everyone make an attempt to watch this film; not only because it is highly entertaining, but also because it enlightens it's viewers on the real deal with this epic problem of fast food and the link to health issues.

This film will certainly make any American citizen think twice before pulling up to the golden arches again.

Fall/Winter Concert Listings

Date/ time	Band	Venue / Location	City / State
10/27 7:30 pm	Incubus	Whittenmore Center Arena	Durham, NH
10/28 7:30 pm	Green Day, NFG, Sugarcult	Worcester Centrum Center	Worcester, MA
10/28 6:00 pm	Nintendo Fusion ft. Story of the Year	Lupo's at the Strand	Providence, RI
11/1 8:00 pm	KMFDM	Middle East	Cambridge, MA
11/6 7:30 pm	Indigo Girls	Lupo's at the Strand	Providence, RI
11/8 9:00 pm	Interpol	Lupo's at the Strand	Providence, RI
11/13 1:00 pm	Hot Water Music, Alesisonfire	Middle East	Cambridge, MA
11/15 7:00 pm	Jagermester Music Tour: Slayer with Kilswitch Engage and Mastodon	Lupo's at the Strand	Providence, RI
12/4 7:00 pm	Ani Defranco	Lupo's at the Strand	Providence, RI

OPINION

The WNEC Revolution; from the perspective of a senior

Patrick Belmonte
Contributing Writer

Seniors at WNEC came here at a pivotal time for the college. Since our freshman year here, things have changed drastically.

I remember a cold day in January of 2001 when I went to the old admissions house across Wilbraham Rd. for my interview. Now applying students enter the new Welcome Center at the front of campus that encompasses the charm of the institution.

As a football recruit, Coach Gerry Martin took me for a tour, some of the things he left out were Evergreen, Commonwealth, and Golden Bear Stadium. This is because less than four years ago none of those even existed.

"When I arrived for football camp freshman year, Evergreen was still under construction. We played our football games where Commonwealth is now and we practiced in the outfield of the new baseball diamond," Senior Engineer major, Mike Gialousis.

First year students would not recognize the WNEC of three years ago. They might not have even gone here if it remained the way it was. The college has done a great job on improving every aspect of the institution to make it more marketable to incoming students. The cafeteria, housing, athletics and academics are departments that have been improved since our arrival three years ago.

These changes have to affect almost everyone who is enrolled here in one way or another. Everyday I practice at Golden Bear Stadium, I lived in Commonwealth last year, I do as much free laundry as I can and enjoy the new upstairs cafeteria daily.

"The business school being accredited is the biggest change that has occurred at this school in my years here, it makes my degree highly regarded, it will set me apart from other applicants in the job market," Jared King Senior Sport Management Major.

That improvement was in the works long before we got here. This improves the college's image and will help all of us in the job market whether business majors or not because it publicizes the college.

"I have never been in the new Welcome Center, I don't live in Evergreen, I rarely eat in the cafeteria, but I am in the business school, and I play at Golden Bear Stadium, some of the changes affect me while others don't. My only question is when is the new Rock Café going to open?" Derek Folsom senior Sport Management Major.

I chose to come here without any knowledge of the improvements that have taken place over the past three years so all these improvements are just icing on the cake. The campus has changed so much since we got here I feel like I went here twenty years ago, describing the old campus to first year students.

"The school has made done a lot to respond to students requests, but there still is room for improvement, maintenance and housing are still issues that need to be addressed on the campus. Overall for the first year students it is an exciting time to be at WNEC. I have enjoyed my years and I know many others will as well," said Senior Kristen Lybarger

At one point or another all WNEC students ask themselves, 'Where does that $30,000 a year go? Since 2001, Evergreen, Golden Bear Stadium, The Welcome Center, Commonwealth, and the George Trelease Memorial Baseball Park have been constructed. The campus center has been completely renovated, Gateway was improved, free laundry was implemented and the business school was accredited. Commonwealth cost just under $10 million and Golden Bear Stadium cost over $1 million, which means our tuition money is going to good use.

It seems that the seniors that have watched this WNEC metamorphosis feel that all the changes were improvements and are amazed at how drastically the school has changed in such a short period time. The senior class has benefited from the changes and the future is bright for WNEC and the underclassmen.

I don't know what the next WNEC project will be, I suggest bulldozing Gateway and constructing something along the lines of Evergreen.

A welcome and invitation to The Westerner, from the Editor

Jennifer Wroblewski
Editor-in-Chief

It's been a long time since we've seen an issue of The Westerner out on campus; my staff and I need your help! For those of you who don't know me already, my name is Jennifer Wroblewski, and I am the Editor-in-Chief of the 2004-2005 Westerner Student Newspaper.

With this position, I hope to work with my staff to bring the student body a quality source of information, opinion, and entertainment. In order to do that, however, I'll need more contributing writers.

I encourage the students in the Western New England College community to write on any issues that they see as important. The purpose of the opinion section is to relay the voice of the students in written form.

Some guidelines we would like to set for "letters to the editor" would be: No more than 250 words. Submitted by deadline, usually Mondays at 12pm (check with the staff first) Space is not guaranteed and we reserve the right to edit for content and grammar.

The Westerner editorial staff may also issue their opinions in the form of an Editorial. This will be what is important and relevant to the campus community and is the official opinion of the student newspaper.

Students opinions will be considered "Letters to the Editor" unless longer than 250 words. If the article is longer than 250 words, it will be classified as an "As I See It" column. The difference is stronger limitations on space, but allows more information and opinions to be expressed.

The Westerner is always looking for motivated staff writers and photographers. We provide a great opportunity to excel in writing journalistic articles, interviewing, and editing; we invite you to become a part of The Westerner as either a staff writer or contributing writer. As an organization, we promote educational training for our staff, as well as plenty of fun!

Advertising in The Westerner is FREE for all Western New England College clubs and organizations, and we encourage all group leaders to take advantage of this offer. If you have an event you would like topublicize or post notice of, The Westerner is the place to do it! Stop by our office in Rivers 113, or contact us by email (thewesternersn@yahoo.com) for more information.

Students can utilize The Westerner for classified advertising as well. If you can't get rid of that old Pontiac that has lost its novelty, don't give up! You never know, it could be another students' dream car! Just contact The Westerner staff, and we'll put you in touch with the community.

I would also like to extend an invitation for anyone who has any ideas or information for articles to get a hold of us and let us know! You may hear important information before we do, the quicker we hear, the more timely we can distribute the news to you!

Once again, I am excited about where the newspaper is going. It's had a rough couple of years, but we're still optimistic about where we can go from here.

OPINION

The Freshman Forecast

Jonathan O'Hara
Staff Writer

It only took me a few hours at WNEC to figure out that being a Freshman sucks.

Not exactly earth-shattering news, I know, but got me thinking: Why does it suck to be a Freshman? I decided to find an answer (though I am naturally a curious person, this decision was mostly made due to extreme boredom).

My mind quickly grav'tated towards the easiest possible solution: Being a Freshman sucks because you are young. It's no fun to be young, especially when surrounded by older people. For a moment, I thought I had found my solution.

Unfortunately, this explanation quickly broke down. I started school at age 21 this fall, but my first year still sucks. So, I concluded, it is not youth that makes the Freshman year terrible.

I then began to ponder homesickness. After all, college is the first time living away from home for many. It is not uncommon for a new student to become depressed because they miss their family and friends. Maybe this is what makes the Freshman life so difficult.

For a second time, I disproved my own reasoning. I have not lived at home for some time now, and it's quite difficult to miss friends when one doesn't have any (sad, but true). Since I am not at homesick, that couldn't be the reason I was looking for.

Desperately searching for answers, my mind focused on one last idea. Maybe loneliness is the explanation. After all, it can be difficult to live in a new place when you don't know anybody.

Alas, I do not fit this category, either. In March, I was officially named "The Biggest Geek in Philadelphia" (which is a column in and of itself). Naturally, with a title like that, I am used to spending large quantities of time alone.

My theories had dried up.

I sat down in the campus center quite dejected. It seemed that my solution had eluded me. I was just about to give up on my search when, as fate would have it, my answer found me.

This took the form of an attractive, upper-class female sitting down next to me. I don't remember our conversation very well, but I recall that it came to an abrupt halt. It sounded something like this:

ME (to her): Actually, I'm a Fresh-- Hey! Wait! Where are you going? Call me?

I should be used to rejection by now, but that one stung a bit. Nevertheless, I was back smiling a few minutes later. After all, that attractive upper-class female had just given me my answer. That night, I figured out why it sucks to be a Freshman.

The problem is simple: The word Freshman carries with it a plethora of stereotypes. When I tell someone that I am a Freshman, they automatically assume that I am young and immature; a general annoyance to society. It doesn't matter than I am actually NOT any of these things (well, perhaps annoying; It depends who you talk to) I am immediately categorized simply because I am a Freshman. This is the reason it sucks to be a Freshman. In the words of Rodney Dangerfield, "I get no respect!"

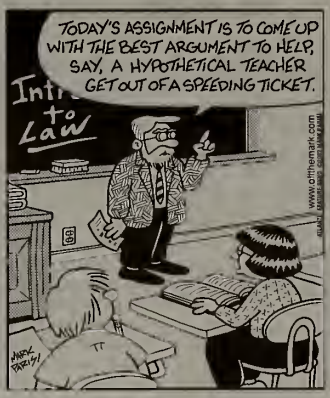
If I were a bit more ambitious, I might try to persuade you all to rid yourselves of your presuppositions about Freshmen.

I might even write a newspaper article to persuade you to change your thinking. However, as a realist, I know that nobody would listen do me if I did. After all, I'm just a Freshman . . .

Express Yourself!

How's YOUR Freshman Year going??

Tell us your story...
thewesternersn@yahoo.com



A colorful snapshot of WNEC's ALLY awareness support

GSA continued from page 1

modest turnout, GSA only made about 180 pieces of paper for individuals to sign. From the first day alone about 150 were signed.

Another 180 were made that same day to allow all students, faculty and staff who wanted to sign an opportunity to do so.

This year's turnout was the biggest ever as a record number of the college community wanted to sign and show their support for the cause. If you would like to know more information please attend a Gay Straight Alliance meeting as all are welcomed, faculty/staff as well!

The meetings are held in Rivers Room 136, Mondays at 2pm.

If you have questions you would rather not ask in front of a group, then you can e-mail GSA President Sue Wilcox at swilcox@wnec.edu.

SPORTS

The Pressures of a Professional

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

The modern athlete is a role model for any fan or participate who follows their beloved sport.

When an athlete makes a poor decision, or is infracted upon consequences outlawed in policy guidelines, they're burdened as a disappointing example to their team, league, and fans.

Recently, the NFL has been experiencing numerous incidents in which players act on poor judgement, causing suspensions, fines, and awkward confrontations with teammates and media.

Failing drug tests, cutting team rules and regulations, and blatant disregard for the NFL's substance abuse policies are just a few of the obstructions that have occurred.

Arguably one of the best running backs of his era, Ricky Williams retired in the prime of his career for reasons concentrated around the fact that he had lost his passion to play football professionally. In the public eye, 3 failed marijuana tests say otherwise.

Quincy Carter, last year's starting quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys, was released from the team in training camp this spring after a repeat violation of the league's substance abuse policy.

The agreement between the league and the union precludes such an action, but while Carter led the Cowboys to a 10-6 record and a wild-card playoff berth last season, Dallas head officers say he was cut loose for performance reasons.

Tennessee Titans quarterback, Steve McNair, Co-MVP of the National Football League last season, was arrested for driving under the influence and possession of a handgun in May of last year.

He ultimately received punishment by the NFL with fines and suspensions, and apologized for his wrongdoings. But his image was shattered to the fans of Nashville.

And most recent, Ravens running back Jamal Lewis is going to serve a prison sentence after the 2004-2005 season, because he was involved in a drug deal that took place years ago.

Lewis plea-bargained in court to allegations of cocaine conspiracy charges, about four years ago, when he was a 20 year-old, in college, at the University of Tennesee.

When an athlete makes a mistake, their crime is highly publicized. We as a society become so attached to our favorite professional teams and athletes that the disappointment of them failing or making mistakes is sometimes hard to take in.

We expect these superior athletes to be perfect in their performance, morals, and behavior, but this is not always the case.

The fact is no matter what the consequence, these athletes are under tremendous pressure in their lives to be the stars we envision them to be. Everyone makes mistakes, and the media further pushes the burden on the athlete.

Let these athletes live they way they want, let them learn from their past experiences, and they will come back with a stronger personal character, without media backlash...with your support.

WNEC Golf in review

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

The Western New England College's Men's Golf team finished the fall season with another strong appearance in the competitive Greater North Atlantic Conference (GNAC), but did not compete to their potential.

"If you asked me how we were going to fare after the first couple tournaments, I'd tell you were going to have a very successful season," said head coach Bill Downes, who started his 18th season as head of the Golden Bears golf program.

"But then we just didn't play well. In the past few years we have finished in the top half of the conference, and now we're starting to slip."

Although the team didn't attain some of its higher expectations, there was plenty of recognition to go along with the solid season.

The squad was led by junior captain Adam D'Amario and sophomore E.J. Czajkowski who finished out the fall schedule with scoring averages both breaking 80; D'Amario with 78.0 and Czajkowski 79.3.

"One of my goals this season was to go to nationals," noted D'Amario, who also received the GNAC Player-Of-The-Week honor on October 4.

Czajkowski was also named GNAC Player-Of-The-Week on Sept. 27, and became the first WNEC golfer to break par in tournament play, a feat that has never been done before. He carded a 1-under 71 in the opening match at MacGregor Links in Saratoga, NY.

In addition to D'Amario and Czajkowski's consistent play, the Golden Bears also got support from sophomore Ed Natti, and freshman notables Jake Malkoon and Justin Ostiguy.

The team finished 6th out of 16 in the ECAC Qualifying Tournament, and 22nd out of 46 for the NEIGA Championship.

Look for the WNEC Men's Golf Team to make a big impact in the spring, once golf season is back in session.

The NHL remains locked-out, will there be a season?

Dan Perlowitz
Assistant Editor

As all devoted hockey fans nationwide, I'm starting to realize that there probably won't be a NHL season this year, which is a huge disappointment to me and the rest of North America.

The bitter arguments between the owners and players that have yet to produce signs of progress, or set up a deal to compromise demands from both sides of the equation.

And it further emphasizes the point that professional sports organizations are concentrated solely around money, revenue and greed, ignoring the basis to why sports exist in the United States and Canada; the love of the game.

The players want more money, the owners want a salary cap, and the end result has forced a stalemate that is a mirror image of what happened to the NHL in the 1994-1995 lockout. Fortunately, they were able to salvage a season, but this lockout is far from over.

The league and the players union haven't met or spoken to each other since negotiations on September 9, in Toronto, one week before the lockout went into effect.

And the worse part is, there is no such meeting scheduled anytime soon between the owners and the NHL's Player Assoociation, to discuss the fate of the National Hockey League this season.

As for the players, their association, the NHLPA, is planning to meet on November 2 with all 30 representatives of each team, to determine what needs to be done to get back on the ice.

So far, as of October 26, about 78 games have been cancelled due to the lockout, and the players will be missing their third paycheck this weekend.

This has caused some players to seek alternative ways to play the sport they love and respect.

European players have gone home to play for their national teams, and semi-professional leagues that exist in their respected homelands. While young American prospects have joined their organization's minor league hockey affiliate to keep in shape, just in case something breaks through for the NHL.

As the lockout continues, you can expect to see a shift in the support of hockey from the professional stage to college campuses,

NHL continued on page 8

SPORTS

Will this year end with the same old story ?

Robert Cunningham
Staff Writer

Nearly every season, optimistic Boston Red Sox fans hope that it will be the year their team finally wins the World Series and breaks a painful championship draught that spans back to 1918.

This season is no different. What is different, however, is that the Boston Red Sox are playing their best baseball in years, and fans are believing this actually could be the year the team wins it's first World Series in 85 years.

The Red Sox have their best record since 1995, and are chasing the Yankees for their first division title in 10 years.

They own a commanding 5 game lead in the wild-card, and are on their way to the playoffs.

Over the past month, they own the best record in major league baseball, and that has gotten every Red Sox fan excited.

"The Red Sox are on fire," said Junior Josh Martel.

"And I believe that this is the year they break the curse."

The red hot Red Sox have gotten the attention of Yankees fans, but the rivalry lives on.

"The Red Sox are cursed. It is not their year, and never will be their year. Look what happened last year!" huffed angry Senior Dustin Plunkett, a Yankee fan of over 16 years.

What Plunkett is referring to is last year's Championship Series Game 7, when the Red Sox were so close, but once again lost to the Yankees.

But with the addition of starting pitcher Curt Schilling, and the recent success the Boston Red Sox have had winning, Sox fans believe that this is the year they overtake the Yankees and win the World Series, breaking the infamous curse.

All of New England, including the many Red Sox fans of WNEC, will be watching, and believing this October, that "This is the year."

Curt Shilling's pitching has the Red Sox in the World Series

The curse of the fan

Jonathan O'Hara
Contributing Writer

After the 2003 ALCS, I swore off the Red Sox forever. I promised myself that I would never again get caught up in a team that never wins.

My resolve began to weaken in mid-February. By April 4, I was glued to NESN along with the rest of New England. My resolve was gone. I was hooked on the Sox once more.

Oddly enough, Losing has not always been a Boston tradition. During the first 15 years of World Series play, the Sox won the championship five times, including wins in 1915, 1916, and 1918. Far from losers, they were baseball's first dynasty.

On September 13, 1918, the Boston Herald printed this statement: "Of course, it is possible that some year will yet see a Boston team losing a World's Championship."

When these words went to press, nobody in Boston knew how grimly ironic they would become.

The Red Sox have not won a World Series since 1918. During that span, they are 31-44 in postseason play. They have been to the seventh game of the World Series on four separate occasions, and they have lost them all in heartbreaking fashion.

The name Bill Buckner still haunts the dreams of Sox fans everywhere. To this day, the words "Bucky" and "Dent" can't be used together without an expletive in between. When you add names like Grady Little and Aaron Boone to the list, you wind up with recipe for despair.

As always, there is talk of sorcery in Red Sox Nation. Many believe that the team is cursed, and is unable to win a championship because of it. I do not believe that is the case.

If there is a curse involved with the Red Sox, it is a curse of the fans: It is the curse of Prometheus.

Prometheus was a mythical character who received a harsh punishment from the gods. Each day, as he stood chained to a rock, a vulture would swoop down and peck out his liver.

Each night, the liver would regenerate, and the torture would continue, day after day.This is our curse as Red Sox fans.

Each October, our heart is ripped out when the Sox lose. Despite our resolve, we find that our love for the Red Sox renews itself by spring, when the cycle begins again. We cannot give up. We can do nothing to change our fate.

Eventually, Prometheus was set free when a hero named Heracles killed the vulture. In Red Sox Nation, we also hope for deliverance.

Perhaps our vulture will not come this time. Perhaps Schilling, Cabrera, or Francona will be our Heracles. Perhaps they will end our curse.

Today, our team stands on the brink once more. After defeating the Evil Empire in the greatest comeback in baseball history, the Red Sox are once again in the World Series.

With the world watching, the Boston Red Sox stand ready to capture their first World Championship in almost 100 years. This is we have been waiting for since 1918.

The Red Sox are only four wins away from victory: Hope has never been so alive.

NHL cont'd from page 7

minor leagues, and semi-pro teams.

The Canadian cities of Montreal, Toronto, and Ottowa have expressed deep disappointemnt towards the league and the lockout, both economically and socially. These franchises fear losing sales, overstocked merchandise, disgruntled players and now faith in the NHL, as their national sport is fading into a coporate dilemma.

Personally, this sucks. There is no way of avoiding the fact that hockey's popularity has declined severely the last couple of years compared to other professional sports.

Last year, Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Playoffs between the Calgary Flames and the Tampa Bay Lightning produced a zero TV rating among primetime networks, meaning that it was viewed by less than few million viewers. A very dismal percentage for a championship series on national television.

Mark Chalker, a Sports Management major and Pittsburgh Penguins fan, knows this lockout is not good for his puck club.

"Basically, if the league has to consolidate in result of this lockout, the lower income teams, like Pittsburgh, won't be around for too long. That will be a dark day for hockey."

So whats the next best thing to the NHL?

There is always the Springfield Falcons, who started their season last week, and have affordable tickets for college students. And the WNEC hockey opener, hosting Fitchburg State on Nov. 9th